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THE WAR IN THE EAST: BULGARIAN TROOPS CROSSING THE SERVIAN FRONTIER.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

OUR NOTEBOOK

The penny post, post-cards, and telegrams have probably destroyed for ever a fine branch of literature. Letter-writing, which is now a mere matter of convenience, was at one time a fine art, and the letters of Swift, Walpole, Cowper, Byron, and Southey have gained a permanent reputation. Pope was so proud of his correspondence that he disgraced himself eternally by what Swift called his "schemes of epistolary fame." His letters lack spontaneity, and it has been truly said that their ease is laboured and their warmth studied. It is quite otherwise with Swift, who is one of the most natural of writers, and one of the liveliest. Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole deserves the thanks of readers who like to take their enjoyment without trouble, for his admirable selection from the great Dean's letters and journals, just published in the "Parchment Library." In all the literature of the last century, there is, perhaps, nothing more delightful than the Journal to Stella; and yet we believe that no cheap and popular edition of that inimitable gossip has hitherto been published. Swift's relations with Vanina, with Stella, and with Vanessa have perplexed all his biographers; but to Stella, if he did not know how to act wisely, he knew how to write pleasantly; and even his fooling, of which there is not a little, will afford excellent mirth to the sympathetic reader. Moreover, the Stella Journal gives a more vivid picture of the time than we can obtain elsewhere.

The unhappy Australian colonists, already well-nigh exterminated by rabbits, are threatened with a new enemy in the shape of the prickly pear, which, in Queensland at least, is said to have rendered whole tracts unfit for pasture or cultivation. The seeds, it is affirmed, are transported by the agency of emus, and the papers are calling upon the Government to adopt vigorous measures ere it be too late. But perhaps the prickly pear will drive out the rabbits.

The admirable work done by the Kyrle Society is not, perhaps, of a kind to attract all charitable people. The distribution of blankets, coals, and soup tickets may seem a more practical way of doing good. No doubt, food and fire and clothing are the first necessities of existence; but mere existence is not life; and the efforts of the society, which has Miss Octavia Hill for its treasurer, deserve every possible encouragement. Its aim is to make the poorer classes of our great cities happy, and to throw some sunshine on their lives. This is done by distributing plants and flowers, by gratuitous concerts, by decorating workmen's rooms and school-rooms, by receiving and distributing popular literature, by preserving open spaces, and by laying out gardens in towns. Indirectly, a great moral benefit will be achieved by the success of a society like this. It is the sordidness of their homes, the monotony of their lives, the want of aught that can cheer eye or ear that drives men to the public-house. Make them happy, give them pleasant occupation for moments of leisure, and you strike a blow at drunkenness more powerful and more lasting in its effects than all the oratory of the teetotaler.

A Melbourne chemist has resorted to an ingenious method of attracting public notice. Having by some means possessed himself of "Portia's casket" (but whether the gold, the silver, or the lead, we are not informed), he has placed the same in his window, and offers a reward of £10 to anyone guessing the contents. These are explained to be "two articles—one a vegetable, the other a fleshy substance—whose names are alike." If we were in Melbourne, we should try our luck with corns.

We are constantly meeting with fresh illustrations of the truth of Sir Arthur Helps' saying that the thoughtless cruelty of the world outweighs all the rest. Women, "the most amiable part of creation," are not always the most thoughtful, especially with regard to fashion and dress. The Rev. F. O. Morris, whose name, as a lover of birds, is known all over England, writes to complain of the way in which birds with beautiful plumage are being destroyed in countless numbers, for the sole purpose of decorating ladies' dresses. There can be no beauty in such decoration; and we are not surprised to hear that a lady who had her ball-dress covered with canaries found no partners. A taste of this kind is essentially barbarous, and it is to be hoped that, whether or not ladies join the Plumage League advocated by Lady Mount-Temple, they will use all their influence in opposing a fashion as inartistic as it is cruel.

The erection of a statue to Alexander Selkirk, in his native town of Largo (mis-spelled Largs in a portion of our last issue), has reminded some that no statue has been bestowed upon the man to whom Selkirk owes most of his celebrity, and English literature not a little of its world-wide diffusion—Daniel Defoe. Alike as the creator of Crusoe, and the founder of English political journalism, Defoe is entitled to this mark of honour; he ought, indeed, to have two statues, as the Provost of Dundee had two epitaphs. Nor can there be any doubt that, as a signal example of a successful appeal to posterity, the statue should be raised on the site of the pillory where Defoe stood on a memorable occasion, provided that it is not built over. The obstacles would principally be of an aesthetic nature. Physically, Defoe was not an heroic figure. That the sculptor may know what he has to expect, we transcribe the following description from the advertisement in the *London Gazette*, offering a reward for his apprehension, No. 3879:—"A middle-sized, spare man, of a brown complexion, and dark-brown coloured hair, but wears a wig; a hooked nose, a sharp chin, grey eyes, and a large mole near his mouth."

Scandal against the Winchester repeating-rifle is almost as bad as scandal against Queen Elizabeth. Yet, read the words of a military gentleman, who deposes:—"I remember cautioning him about his Winchester—a rifle that is an awkward customer at times." The person cautioned was poor Mr. Frank Hatton, who is supposed (see "North Borneo," published by S. Low and Co., p. 314) to have shot himself accidentally with a Winchester rifle, "whilst he was pushing aside a vine with the aid of said loaded rifle carried in his hand." Now, there are few, if any, rifles that would not go off, if the trigger were caught under such circumstances; and few people would care to have a rifle that would not; the rifle that would not would certainly be "an awkward customer." But some people expect a rifle to take care of them, instead of their taking care of the rifle; just as if it had been taught manners and everything else at one of the School Board institutions.

Our French neighbours, who are not so particular as we are in dividing the sheep from the goats, or flat-racing from steeplechasing, have lately prepared their list of "winning sires" for the past season, and, by combining "courses plates" and "courses d'obstacles," they assign the top place to Dollar (son of the Flying Dutchman), with a little over 332,000*l.*, or about £13,280. Races won in England are not included, else Flageolet would be "top boy" of the class. What makes Dollar's success remarkable is that he is twenty-five years old, having been foaled in 1860. The Hermit was not foaled till 1864, so that he is quite a youth in comparison, and may be worth another mint of money to his owner.

The decision given by two learned Judges in the case of Lawrie v. London and South-Western Railway is doubtless good law; but it suggests very unpleasant reflections to those accustomed to travel. Every year we notice the circle of our so-called amusements growing wider; and as races, tennis tournaments, Kensington exhibitions, and art-shows increase and attract, we may expect that the railway companies will not scruple to thrust aside their ordinary service of trains to make way for those by which they can carry passengers at extraordinary fares. The legal maximum, we know, on most lines is fixed at the rate of threepence a mile for first, twopence for second, and a penny for third class passengers; and wherever there is healthy competition, these charges are never maintained. It seems, however, from the recent decision of the Courts, that the railway companies are only bound, in return for their enormous privileges, to run one train a day in each direction at these rates.

Would you be a postman, if this be the average work of these important persons in a country district? One man in a Kentish division says that for twelve years he walked eighteen miles every day. Often he carried parcels of 20 lb. weight, in addition to letter-bags; was twice buried in a snowdrift, and rescued with difficulty; and all this for 16*s.* a week, to support himself and family; and no doubt his appetite was good. Now, unable to work, he is yet not eligible for a pension!

As no specific mention of his pictures seems to be made in Mr. Vanderbilt's will, it may be presumed that they will remain in the family. The collection is almost, if not quite, the most famous in America; that of Mr. Walters, at Baltimore, alone coming into competition with it, and his only in the works of certain masters. Mr. Vanderbilt was the possessor of J. F. Millet's "Sower," for which he is said to have paid upwards of £6000; although the artist sold it for about £200. He was the owner also of Alma Tadema's two large works, "The Painter's Studio" and "The Sculpture Gallery"; and of at least half a dozen exquisite specimens of Meissonier—such as "The Ordinance," "General Desaix and the Captured Peasant," &c. Rosa Bonheur was represented by the "Noontide Repose"; J. Lefebvre, by "Mignon"; Fortuny, by an "Arab Fantasia"; and Gérôme, by the "Sword Dance." Amongst the other artists of whom he had secured excellent works were Sir Frederick Leighton and Millais, amongst English artists; Leys and Stevens, amongst Belgians; Knaus and Munkacsy, amongst German; and of the French school, he had specimens by Jules Bréton, Troyon, Rousseau, Corot, Detaille, and a host of others.

Everybody knows how, in course of time, expressions borrowed from other languages become over-Anglicised and distorted, until nothing remains of their original form, and very little of their original meaning, as in the case of "running a mucker." It is almost certain, again, that "bull-fight" is a mere distortion and misconception of "bull-fête." But, perhaps, one of the most curious is "boot and saddle," a corruption, no doubt, of the French military term "boute-selle" (from "bouter," equivalent to "mettre"), which has no "boot" at all about it (indeed, soldiers would not go about in slippers, but booted and spurred, ready to "saddle" at a moment's notice), and which we adopted, as we did other terms, such as to sound the "réveil"—a puzzle in spelling to most English writers even unto this day. Lastly, "cuss," borrowed from the Americans, has come to be regarded as if it were a "wicked word," as if it were a corruption of "curse" (as it undoubtedly is, in certain cases); but it is something more than probable that the "ugly cuss" was originally an abbreviation of "ugly customer," "rum cuss" of "rum customer," and so on; the tendency of the Americans to abbreviate having been plainly indicated by the "Yank" and "Reb" of the Civil War.

Mr. "Champion" Roberts, on the 19th inst., established his claim to immortality by once more "beating the record," having made a break of 451 (nineteen more than his previous "best on record") in a "spot-barred" match with Mr. John North, who, however, was not dismayed, as most players would have been, but himself afterwards made 224 "off the balls" under demoralising influences, and lost the match by 242 only. Mr. Roberts had given Mr. North 4000 points out of 12,000; and to have won at all under such circumstances is to have performed a marvel.

Coincident with the British occupation of Burmah comes a cry for help from the Bishop of Rangoon, who prays that clergy may be sent out to Mandalay, where once the Church of England had her footing. In 1868, a missionary sent from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel went to Mandalay, under the special protection of the King, who built a handsome church, clergy-house, and schools. Matters changed when the late King died and Theebaw succeeded; and shortly afterwards (1878) the mission had to be withdrawn, the Buddhists took possession of the clergy-house, and the church was used for secular purposes; but the Bishop now telegraphs that the moment has come when the Church can again begin her work in the capital of Burmah.

There has been felt great apprehension, in certain military circles, over the new system of recruiting for the Household Cavalry. It was feared that it would open the doors of what ought to be the "crack" regiments in the world to every undesirable character who, escaping from the eyes of the police, sought to find refuge in cuirass and helmet. But the innovation is not so great as it was supposed to be, as the commanding officers will still have the right of rejection. This is as it should be; and we trust that this right will be more strictly employed than at present seems the case. Not for one moment would we wish to say a word against regiments which, whenever they have had a chance, have proved that their fighting powers have been second to none; but it is a fact that one seldom picks up a paper without reading that some members of the Household Troops have been engaged in a public-house brawl or street fight. Of course, the temptations are far greater for soldiers in London than in a quiet country town, such as Canterbury or Winchester. So, would it not be wise to exercise a stricter system of surveillance than now exists?

The question has been asked, and not answered, why General Prendergast declined to use the cartridges supplied to him from England, and took only those manufactured at the Indian Army arsenal at Dum-Dum. The solution, however, is not difficult for those who are not accustomed to "*chercher midi à quatorze heures*." The cartridges manufactured in this country are greased with hog's-lard; and, although there is not now any reason why soldiers should bite them before putting them into their rifles, yet the prejudice against touching anything belonging to the "unclean animal" is still strong among Mussulman soldiers. It might at least be borne in mind that it was the use of these hog-greased cartridges which gave the leaders of the Sepoy Revolt such power with the native soldiery, and for a moment shook our tenure of India. Since that time, the Indian Government has respected the scruples of those who serve in its regiments, and who constitute at least one half of the force sent to Burmah.

No writer of Christmas stories has imagined a more wonderful tale of the sea than that which reaches us from the Antipodes. So long back as 1871, William Nicholls lost a ship on a reef of one of the New Helides Islands. He chartered a cutter to go to the rescue of his vessel, and hired Frederick Maddocks as his master. Arrived at Epi, the island where the wreck occurred, the vessel was found intact. Nicholls landed; and while he was on shore Maddocks succeeded in getting the vessel off the reef, and sailed away with her, leaving her owner alone in the midst of savages. A stray vessel picked Nicholls up, and brought him back to civilisation; and, after fourteen years, he stands in the box confronting Maddocks in the dock. Here is, indeed, a chance for novelists and playwrights!

Owners of vehicles may grumble, and certainly they are entitled to; but there can be no doubt that tramways are an enormous boon to a larger class than the grumblers. Broughams may be wrenched by the metals, coaches may have to find their way out of town by circuitous routes, valuable horses may have to be taken down by-streets and alleys; nevertheless, the tram continues to increase in popularity and importance. No means of progression is so much appreciated by the working public. To them the car represents an enormous saving in time and labour, which both, again, mean actual money; as is shown by the simple fact that, whereas in the year 1876 there were only ninety-four miles of tramways open in the United Kingdom, there are at the present day over six hundred. The days of stage-coaching will never return; but it is by no means improbable that, ere long, one will be able to travel from one end of England to the other on iron rails other than those possessed by the railway companies.

A form of railway tyranny, which has become more oppressive as the lines advance more and more into the heart of London, is the perpetual whistling, with which in many districts the night is made horrible. It suits the purpose of some of the companies, apparently, to do a large proportion of their coal and goods traffic when most respectable citizens have gone to bed, and the engine-drivers, who, apparently, are of a sociable disposition, take the opportunity afforded of making their engines shriek at one another, and at the signals when these are "against" them, in profuse strains of premeditated shrillness. The inhabitants of South Kensington, who have hitherto enjoyed comparative quiet, will probably find their houses less attractive when the new station is completed, which is to serve as the starting-point of one or more of the southern lines, and to rival Victoria by its increased facilities to tourists and travellers from all parts.

NEW SERIAL TALE BY MR. PAYN.

With the Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Jan. 2, 1886, will begin an Original Story, entitled "*The Heir of the Ages*," by James Payn, Author of "*By Proxy*," "*The Canon's Ward*," etc. It will be illustrated by Harry Furniss.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Monday, Dec. 21.

The debate on the interminable Tonquin question began in the Chamber of Deputies to-day, and is likely to last all the week. The report of the Committee of thirty-three drawn up by M. Camille Pelletan, is altogether lacking in those qualities of reserve and impartiality which generally characterise documents of this kind; it is really a pamphlet against the policy of M. Jules Ferry, and of the present Cabinet. The greater part of the report is taken up with the enumeration of the sacrifices of men and money which Tonquin has cost France. Then follows considerations about the uselessness of Tonquin to the French, whose industrial habits do not fit them for colonisation; and, finally, the declaration that, in the opinion of the Committee, the safety of France will be endangered by her persevering in the conquest of Annam and Tonquin. The Committee considers that annexation or a protectorate will be equally dangerous, and that the only course is evacuation. The Committee recommends a vote of credit sufficient to secure the return of the troops to France within a reasonable time. M. Brisson asks the Chamber to vote the credits without reserve or diminution, and to approve by the vote his policy of occupation. There is no doubt that the credits will be voted as M. Brisson desires.

In bygone days the Parisians used to dance for the benefit of the victims of a simoon in Patagonia or some equally vague and distant charity. Nowadays, they dance for their own benefit, in order to make money circulate out of one pocket into another. A grand ball, we are told, galvanises Parisian commerce into life. This is possible; only, like the water in the cascades on the stage, this money thus put into circulation is always the same. A grand ball was held on Saturday at the palace of the Tribunal of Commerce; it was a very fine spectacle; it cost some 50,000*fr.*, and it put into circulation amongst dress-makers, florists, glovers, and cabmen some 170,000*fr.* or 180,000*fr.*, according to the calculations of an ingenious statistician, who reckons that each lady who went to this ball spent for the occasion a five pound note on doing up her old ball-dress, and buying gloves and flowers. This idea of the ladies doing up their old dresses is lamentable; it shows what a sad state Paris is in; how universal and profound is the misery. And yet on Saturday there were some Anarchists who wished to protest against the "bourgeois saturnalia" of this ball; a handbill was issued, signed by the revolutionary executive committee, inviting the "friends and brothers" to manifest outside, and hoot the carriages as they drove up to the palace. The manifestation was a failure. It is grotesque to hoot a democratic yellow cab.

The great event at the theatre this week has been the production of Alphonse Daudet's "Sapho" at the Gymnase. The subject of the piece may be sufficiently indicated by saying that Sapho is a contemporary Manon Lescaut. The success of the play promises to be immense, thanks to its originality, its realism, and to the really wonderful acting of Madame Jane Hading. To quote the words of M. Edmond De Goncourt, "Sapho" is the first piece in which the real life of a novel of the present day has been rigorously transported on to the stage." Goncourt, Daudet, and the other men who look up to these two as their literary masters, are hoping that the piece will be the beginning of a revolution on the stage, and force the French drama, or comedy, to abandon coarse convention, to seek realism of situations and language, and, above all, to put into the painting of love and passion—which is the beginning and the end of play-writing—true observation from Nature. The creation of Sapho, by Madame Hading, is the most remarkable piece of acting that we have seen for many years on the Parisian stage. For grace, harmony of movements, gesture, attitude, and command of means which are not naturally extensive, Madame Hading is incomparable.

After performing Théodora 260 times, Sarah Bernhardt has "broken down at last, and been obliged to take to her bed. It is hoped that a week's repose will enable her to resume her work, and prepare her new creation of Victor Hugo's Marion Delorme.—Four American children, from Newark (New Jersey), have arrived in Paris to be treated by M. Pasteur. These children were bitten by a mad dog, and a public subscription was organised to send them here.—Père Didon, the celebrated Dominican preacher, is about to publish a refutation of Renan's "Life of Jesus." Père Didon comes rather late in the day, several hundred volumes and pamphlets on the same theme have already appeared years ago.—The Société des Artistes Français, which now organises the annual Salon, appears to be in a most flourishing condition. The society, founded only four years ago, has more than 3000 members, and possesses a capital of nearly 500,000*fr.* T. C.

The King of Italy signed, on the 17th inst., a Royal decree transferring Count Luigi Corti, Italian Ambassador in Constantinople, to London, in the same capacity.

Both the Queen and the Prince of Wales were represented at the obsequies of the late King Ferdinand of Portugal, which took place on Monday at Lisbon. The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of persons, and all the places of business in the city were closed.

Last Saturday the annual dinner to which the Emperor of Germany invites the Ambassadors of the Great Powers just before Christmas took place at the Royal Palace. The other guests included Count Moltke, Prince Hohenlohe (just back from Madrid), Count Herbert Bismarck, and the Military Attachés of the Embassies. Prince Henry has arrived at Berlin from Kiel to spend the holidays with his parents.—Prince Bismarck's health continues to improve very slowly.—Professor Leopold Von Ranke, the eminent historian, completed his ninetieth year on Tuesday, when the Berlin University held a special official celebration, in honour of the Nestor of historical science. Among the persons who called upon the historian was the Crown Prince of Germany. The Emperor sent an autograph letter and his portrait, and the Empress also sent a letter.

The Emperor and Empress of Austria have gone to Pesh for Christmas week.—Lieutenant Field-Marshal Baron Louis Cornaro is appointed Governor of Dalmatia, in place of the late Baron Jovannovic.

Prince Waldemar and Princess Marie made their entry into Copenhagen on Sunday, on their return from their wedding tour, the newly-married couple being received at the railway station by the King and Queen, and the members of the Municipal Council, the president of which delivered an address of welcome. The town was magnificently decorated, and dense crowds enthusiastically cheered the Prince and Princess as they drove through the streets.—The Danish Folkething on Monday refused its consent, by an overwhelming majority, to the Provisional Laws promulgated in October by the Government restricting the liberty of the Press and of public meetings, such laws being contrary to the Constitution.

The Greek Chamber of Deputies has voted by acclamation M. Deliyannis's bill authorising the Government to contract a loan of one hundred million drachmas, to be used exclusively for the Army and Navy.—Prince Georgios, second son of the

King, who is serving in the Danish Navy, arrived at Athens on the 18th inst. from Copenhagen, to spend Christmas with the Royal family.

The Viceroy arrived at Calcutta on the 16th inst., quite privately. Lord Dufferin's health gives no cause for anxiety, being decidedly better, and his Excellency is now simply suffering from the after effects of the fever.

We learn from Mandalay that Major Walker, while out with a reconnoitring force, was attacked by a party of Shan Dacoits, and wounded, and that a native soldier was killed. Major Walker fell back on his supports and ordered his men to open fire. Seven of the Dacoits were killed. A messenger reports that three Europeans belonging to the Bombay and Burmah Trading Company have been massacred. The brother of Theebaw has issued a proclamation calling on the Burmese to disregard the proclamation of the British and to supply him with arms and food. Mr. Bernard, Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, has arrived at Mandalay to take up the post of Provisional Administrator.

It is reported in Peking (says the Shanghai correspondent of the *Standard*) that the Emperor of China intends to assume the government of the Empire in February. It is also said that at the same time he will marry. The Empress Regent will thereupon retire into private life.

The New South Wales Ministry has resigned, in consequence of the opposition to the Budget. Sir John Robertson, K.C.M.G., has been charged with the formation of a new Cabinet.—The Victoria Parliament has been prorogued. A proclamation has been issued ordering quarantine to be imposed upon arrivals from Queensland and the northern territory of South Australia. Every precaution has been taken to prevent the introduction of cholera into that colony.

CITY ECHOES.

TUESDAY, Dec. 22.

Consequent upon an export demand for gold on a scale and of a character not easily coped with, the Bank of England directors have unexpectedly raised the rate to 4 per cent. As the supply of money for internal purposes is large, and the demand is small, it has not been easy for the open market to follow this movement to anything like the full extent; but, as the rate which now prevails is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, as compared with $2\frac{1}{2}$ before the Bank made the movement, a substantial gain has been attained with reference to our exchange position. In the latter end of last year our experience was much the same as now, and to meet the then drain of gold the rate had to be put up to 5 per cent. It was kept there for twelve weeks. The present stock of gold is scarcely 20½ millions, and it is never safe to hold less. There appears, at present, to be no prospect of fresh withdrawals of importance, but if gold continues to be taken for export the rate would be again raised.

In the Stock Exchange, business has been fairly active for the time of year, but there is not now in force the strong upward currents recently prevailing in several directions. The advance in the Bank rate has been against Consols and similar securities, but the effect upon prices has not been of quotable extent. Foreign securities do not as a body concern British investors much, but the better descriptions keep up, in spite of some adverse political influences. An unfavourable feature is a fall in the value of home railway stocks, as the result of market estimates as to the working during the half-year now nearly closed. It seems to be taken for granted that there will be a reduction in the dividends ranging up to 1 per cent, and there appears to be some feeling that the reported revival of trade is not yet beyond doubt. American railways are in some cases firm, and in others the reverse; and in Canadian a conspicuous feature is the steady improvement in all Canadian Pacific issues and associated securities, and the decline in all the Grand Trunk series. The latter company announces the due payment of the interest due in January, but the continued bad traffic returns excite the concern and sympathy of all who are interested in Canada. In gold-mining shares there continues to be a large business, but a wholesome pause has taken place in the upward movement. Copper-mining shares are also less buoyant.

Quite an event is announced in the disastrous history of foreign water companies of British origin. The directors of the Odessa Water Company, Limited, declared a first dividend of 1 per cent in 1875, and followed this with another of 1½ in 1876; but there was no cash to pay them with, the profits being in the company's books and not in the till. Deferred warrants were, in consequence, issued; and now, in December, 1885, these warrants are to be paid—of course, without interest. The company's works have involved a capital of close upon £900,000, and, after thirteen years' work, an aggregate of 2½ per cent is the result. Moral: think twice before you provide money to furnish the means of washing to people who are not so used to such a luxury as to wish to pay for it.

With commendable promptitude, Messrs. J. S. Morgan and Co. have received and published the result of the working of the New York Central Railroad Company for the year to Sept. 30 last. It shows that while the net income has been 2,175,000 *dols.*, as much as 3,130,000 *dols.* has, by anticipation, been paid away as dividend. But the scale of dividend now being paid is well within even this bad experience. As evidence of how the recent cutting of rates has told upon net revenue, this company shows that, after paying all fixed charges, there was in 1882-3 7,300,000 *dols.* for the shareholders; in 1883-4, 4,600,000 *dols.*; and in 1884-5, 2,175,000 *dols.* T. S.

Steamers arrived at Liverpool during last week with live stock and fresh meat on board from the American and Canadian ports with 1090 cattle, 10,766 quarters of beef, and 973 carcasses of mutton.

At the house dinner of the Savage Club last Saturday—at which, among other guests, Lieutenant Greely, the Polar explorer, and Governor Waller, the American Consul-General for England, were present—the medal of the Royal Humane Society was presented to Mr. H. S. Wellcome, a member of the New York Lotus Club, for saving life in Boulter's Lock, on the Thames.

It has come to the knowledge of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis that a fraud is about to be attempted by a gang of notorious convicts and others operating from Switzerland. Circulars will be forwarded to persons in this country, pointing out the advantages of buying a watch for £2, which can be pledged in Great Britain for £2 10*s.* The facsimile of a pawn-ticket is printed in the circular, giving the name of a well-known firm of pawnbrokers in London, purporting that a watch sold for £2 was actually pledged with them for £2 10*s.* As a sample, and to induce further investments, a good watch will probably be sent in the first instance, and worthless articles will follow. Invitations will also be given to purchase coupons for foreign Government lotteries, that would result, if ever they are drawn, to the benefit of the conspirators only, or in the distribution of worthless prizes. Persons receiving these circulars are warned not to part with any money before satisfying themselves that the articles offered to them are genuine.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, attended by the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, arrived at Osborne on Friday, the 18th inst., having crossed over from Gosport in her Majesty's yacht *Alberta*, Captain Fullerton. On Saturday her Majesty the Queen drove out in the afternoon, and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg walked and drove. Her Majesty and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, and the members of the Royal household, attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday morning. The Rev. Canon Prothero, M.A., officiated.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Marlborough House last Saturday from visiting the Earl and Countess of Leicester at Holkham, Norfolk. The Princess, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, Prince George, and Princess Louise, likewise left Holkham and proceeded to Sandringham. The Prince was present in the afternoon at the marriage of Miss Mary Ellis, eldest daughter of Colonel Arthur Ellis, Esquerry to his Royal Highness, with Mr. Ralph Sneyd, at St Peter's Chapel, Vere-street, Cavendish-square. His Royal Highness visited the Lambeth Pottery on Monday, and presented the Albert medal of the Society of Arts to Mr. Henry Doulton, in recognition of the impulse given by him to the production of artistic pottery in this country. The Princess has become the patron of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, Fulham-road, in succession to the late Duke of Albany.

The Duke of Edinburgh, presiding last Saturday at the anniversary dinner of the National Orphan Home, mentioned that he would shortly leave this country to assume a command on the Mediterranean station, which would gratify one of the greatest aspirations of his life. The Duchess, accompanied by Lord and Lady Randolph Churchill and other distinguished visitors at Eastwell, arrived at Canterbury shortly before noon on Saturday, and visited the cathedral, over which they were shown by the Suffragan Bishop of Dover.

Lord Alfred Paget has sold his screw steam-yacht *Santa Cecilia*, which was last year hired by the Empress of Austria, to his nephew, the Marquis of Anglesey.

Mr. Henry Graham, one of the Masters in Lunacy, has been appointed to the post of Clerk of the Parliaments, vacant by the death of Sir William Rose, K.C.B.

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess of Carnarvon left the Viceregal Lodge, Dublin, on Sunday, for England, to spend Christmas.

Earl Granville on Saturday last laid the foundation-stone of an Art Treasures Exhibition which it is proposed to open at Folkestone in May next, and which it is understood will eventually become a permanent summer and winter garden.

Lord Shaftesbury unveiled a monument and bust of his late father on the 17th inst., in the King Edward Ragged Schools, Spitalfields, of which the late Earl was for thirty-nine years the president.

Lord Tennyson requests us to inform his correspondents that he is wholly unable to answer the innumerable letters which he daily receives, nor can he undertake to return or criticise the MSS. sent him.

Sir R. N. Fowler, the late Lord Mayor, has been presented with a handsome portrait of himself, in appreciation of his distinguished public services during the term of his mayoralty.

At a meeting of the Senate of the University of Dublin, held on the 17th inst. in Trinity College—the Earl of Rosse, Chancellor, presiding—the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon his Excellency Lord Carnarvon. There was a crowded and brilliant assemblage.

Sir John Macdonald was on the 17th inst. presented with the freedom of the Turners' Company, for his eminent services in promoting the political confederation of the British possessions in North America, and in successfully accomplishing their physical union by the recent completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The Queen has conferred the distinction of K.C.B. (Civil Division) upon Dr. G. E. Paget, Regius Professor of Physic in the University of Cambridge; and her Majesty has conferred the honour of knighthood upon Dr. William Roberts, of the Victoria University, Manchester; and upon Mr. Oswald W. Brierly, marine painter to her Majesty, in recognition of his great abilities as an artist.

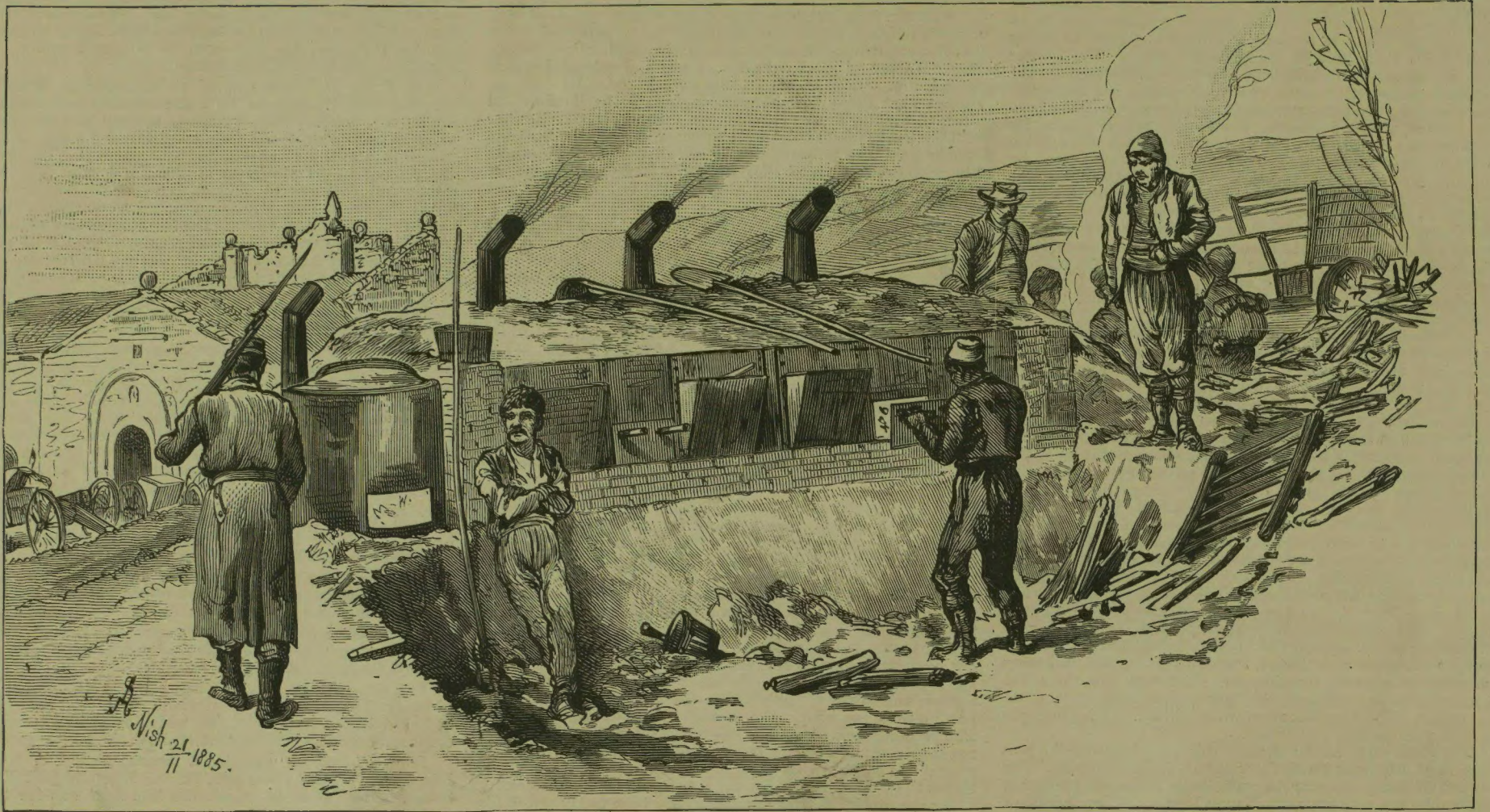
The Duke of Westminster has taken 25 per cent off the rents of his Flintshire tenantry, and Lord Crewe 10 and 15 per cent off those of his Cheshire and Staffordshire tenantry. Earl Fitzwilliam has made a reduction of 25 per cent on the rents due on his Irish estates in September last, and this abatement will hold good on all rents paid on or before March 25 next. The Duke of Northumberland has made a substantial and permanent reduction of the rents of his agricultural tenants. The Earl of Shrewsbury has intimated to his Cheshire tenantry his intention of making an abatement of 10 per cent on their rentals. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn has remitted 10 per cent off all rentals on his Welsh estates. The Earl of Airlie has given instructions for a report to be prepared for him in reference to the rents of farms on his estate, so as to enable him to determine how best to assist his tenants in meeting the difficulties which have beset them owing to the general agricultural depression. Sir Thomas Munro, of Lindertis, has also ordered a revaluation of farms on his estate. Lord Cranbrook has again remitted 10 per cent of the rents of the tenants on his Kentish estates. The Marquis of Bath's rent audit for small tenants and allotment-holders was held at Frome on Monday, and an abatement of 40 per cent on all rents was made. An abatement of 20 per cent was made a fortnight ago at the farm rent audit.

Our Special Artist, Mr. W. Simpson, who was with Sir Peter Lumsden's Afghan Boundary Commission a twelvemonth ago, read a paper on Monday evening to the Royal Asiatic Society, communicating notes recently sent to him by Captain De Laessde and Captain the Hon. M. G. Talbot, R.E., now with the Commission, describing the rock-cut vaults, chambers, and galleries discovered by them on the banks of the Murghab; these interesting antiquities are considered by Mr. Simpson to be of Buddhist origin.

Our Portrait of Professor F. T. Palgrave is from a photograph by Mr. Fradelle, of Regent-street; that of General Sir E. B. Hamley, by Messrs. Elliott and Fry; that of the late Dean Howson, by Messrs. Russell and Sons, Brompton-road; that of the late Mr. Fahey, by Mr. F. Hollyer, Pembroke-square, Kensington; and that of Archdeacon H. Johnson, by Mr. W. Vick, of Ipswich. The Portraits of new members of the House of Commons were taken by the following photographers:—London Stereoscopic Company; Mr. Barraud, Oxford-street; Mr. T. Fall, Baker-street; Franz Baum (Disderi), Brook-street; Elliott and Fry, Baker-street; J. Edwards, Hyde Park-corner; C. and E. Hill, Streatham; M. Batiste and Son, Oxford-street; Brown, Barnes, and Bell, Liverpool; W. Gillard, Gloucester; T. Arony, Scarborough; E. Passington, Bradford; and Bullock Brothers, Leamington.

T H E W A R I N T H E E A S T.

SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. J. SCHÖNBERG.



FIELD KITCHEN OF THE SERVIAN ARMY IN THE FORTRESS AT NISH.



SERVIAN TROOPS LEAVING THE FORTRESS OF NISH AFTER OBTAINING ARMS.



MR. J. McCULLOCH—ST. ROLLOX, GLASGOW.

Born, 1842, in Wigtownshire; was educated at parochial school; is engaged in agriculture, and as a valuator of real estate; a medallist of the Highland Society, and a Vice-President of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.



MR. H. GARDNER—SAFFRON WALDEN.

Mr. Herbert Gardner, of Debden Hall, Saffron Walden, Essex; he was born in 1847, and was educated at Harrow School, and at Trinity College, Cambridge; he is a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Middlesex.



MR. J. A. JACOBY—MID-DERBYSHIRE.

Mr. James Alfred Jacoby, of Normanton, is an extensive lace manufacturer at Nottingham, and in Germany; he has held the office of Sheriff of the Borough of Nottingham, and is a magistrate for the county.



MR. T. WAYMAN—ELLAND, YORKSHIRE.

Alderman Thomas Wayman, born 1833, at Halifax, a wool-stapler; was Mayor of Halifax 1873 and 1874; is Vice-President of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, and a Governor of the Crossley Orphan Asylum there.



MR. E. N. BUXTON—WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

Mr. Edmund North Buxton, third son of late Sir E. N. Buxton, of Cromer, and grandson of late Mr. Samuel Gurney, was born 1840; he was, till lately, Chairman of the London School Board, and is a member of the Board.



SIR E. B. HAMLEY—BIRKENHEAD.

Lieut.-General Sir Edward Bruce Hamley, R.A., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., born 1824, educated Military Academy, Woolwich; commanded in Egypt; Professor of Military History, Commandant of Staff College, Sandhurst.



MR. R. STRONG—NORTH CAMBERWELL.

Mr. Richard Strong, born in 1833, is the son of a flour factor in Mark-lane, City, and is engaged in business; he is a magistrate for the county of Surrey, and is one of the Governors of Dulwich College.



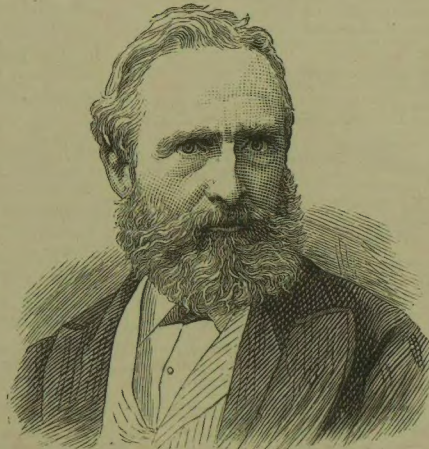
MR. E. R. RUSSELL—BRIDGETON, GLASGOW.

Born in London, 1834, was honorary secretary of the Whittington Club, became in 1860 assistant editor of *Live pool Daily Post*, and since 1869 chief editor; was President of Literary and Philosophical Society, Liverpool.



MR. J. BIGWOOD—EAST FINSBURY.

Mr. James Bigwood, who was born in 1839, and was educated at Chatham, and at St. John's College, Cambridge, is a partner in the firm of Messrs. Champion and Co., mustard and vinegar manufacturers, in London.



MR. H. KIMBER—WANDSWORTH.

Mr. Henry Kimber, born 1834, at Canonbury, Islington, was educated at University College, London, and gained honours there, and the first prize of the Incorporated Law Society; is a solicitor practising in the City.



MR. M. M'INNES—HEXHAM.

Mr. Miles M'Innes, of Rickerby, Cumberland, eldest son of late General M'Innes, was born 1830; educated at Rugby and Balliol College, Oxford; is a magistrate; a director of London and North-Western Railway.



MR. T. C. EDWARDES-MOSS—WIDNES.

Mr. T. Cottingham Edwardes-Moss, second son of Sir T. Edwardes-Moss, of Otterspool, was born in 1855; was educated at Eton and at Brasenose College, Oxford, and was a president of the Oxford University Boat Club.



LORD W. COMPTON—STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

Lord William Compton, second son of the Marquis of Northampton, was born 1851; was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; in Diplomatic Service; was private secretary to Earl Cowper as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.



MR. G. S. BADEN-POWELL—LIVERPOOL.

Son of the Professor of Geometry at Oxford, grandson of Admiral Smyth; born 1847; educated at St. Paul's School, at Marlborough, and at Balliol College; travelled in India, Australia, and West Indies.



MR. T. ROBINSON—GLOUCESTER.

Mr. Thomas Robinson, of Gloucester, was born in 1827; he is a magistrate and an Alderman, and has been four times Mayor of that city, where he is engaged in business as a corn merchant.



MR. W. J. EVELYN—DEPTFORD.

Mr. William John Evelyn, of Wotton, Dorking, and Sayes Court, Deptford, lineal descendant of Mr. John Evelyn, author of the famous "Diary," in the reign of Charles II., was born 1822; was M.P. for West Surrey.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

"FAUST" AT THE LYCEUM.

It would be impossible in the limit of a short newspaper article to convey any idea of the beauty of "Faust" as presented to the public on the Lyceum stage, thanks to the poetical taste of Mr. W. G. Wills, and the genius for stage direction displayed by Mr. Henry Irving. We may hunt as we will among musty theatrical records, but the fact remains that, until last Saturday, the playgoing public knew very little of the heart and soul of Goethe's immortal opera. Gounod's music and the strange charm of the opera made them familiar with the dramatic features of the story. But it was the old legend decked out in a French dress. The valse was better remembered than the love-scenes; the soldiers' chorus dwelt more on the mind than the agony of Margaret. Of course, Mephisto was there, in his scarlet dress and cock's feathers, and Valentine, home from the wars; and there was the jewel song, the garden scene, the dungeon, and the apotheosis; but how little from the opera did we gain of the compact between Faust and Mephisto! How shut out we were from the very gates of the splendid tragedy! It required a long memory, also, to go back to Charles Kean's version of the play at the Princess's Theatre. The version was the same French play by Barbier and Carré that subsequently gave Gounod his libretto; but all that stands out distinct and clear about the Princess's play is the acting of Charles Kean as Mephisto, and the beautiful realisation of the dream of St. Catharine—when the soul of Margaret is being conveyed on angels' wings to Heaven. Hitherto, the version of "Faust" by Bayle Bernard, produced at Drury-Lane, is the best and most faithful that has been seen. He restored many things ignored by the French dramatists—the scene at the well, the prayer at the shrine of the Virgin, the Brocken mountain revels, and several other important matters. But the play took no hold of the public at all. Mr. Phelps and Mr. Hermann Vein played admirably, but poor "Faust" was relegated into oblivion again; and people began to believe, with Mr. W. S. Gilbert, that the poem, as written, was impossible for the stage, and that it would be utterly useless to attempt it. Up to a certain point, Mr. Gilbert was perfectly right. The poem as written could not be contained in a single night's performance, and there are scenes in it obviously unsuited to the stage. Philosophical and religious discussions have no place there. But German authors, since the year 1829, have discovered what portions of "Faust" can be presented on the stage. It was an acting play long before Mr. Irving was born; and what the Germans have done, the English have liberty to improve upon. The result is a singular and complete success. Heart and brain have worked together; the artistic impulse of the management has been strained to its full extent, and "Faust" can now be seen on the stage as it has certainly never been seen before on any stage in Europe. The deep mystery of the compact between Faust and Mephisto; the fever of the old pedant for a renewed intellectual life, with added youth and new-born passion; the curiously cynical episode of Mephisto, disguised as the Doctor, in deep converse with a trembling student; the signing of the fatal contract with blood drawn from the doctor's arm; the mysterious disappearance, through mist and flame, into an unknown region of romance, prepare the spectator for the contemplation of a tragedy as human and as heartrending as has ever been presented to his imagination. All this has been the prelude of what is to follow. It will probably be found that the slight sketch of human depravity, as exemplified by the drunken students in imitation of the revels at Auerbach's cellar, may be conveniently sacrificed; in that case, the play proper will start with the first appearance of the guileless Margaret, as, sin-free, she issues from the church, to be accosted by the man who is destined to be her destroyer. The very contemplation of such a pathetic story, the merest outline of the sad girl's destiny, brings tears into the eyes of the most callous beholder. She is but a plaything in the hands of the arch-fiend. First her vanity is played on, then her heart. The steps down which she descends to her abyss of misery are steep, but no one holds out a hand to save her. A deeply religious nature is torn and mangled before our very eyes. How infinitely sad it is to see the ruin of this young and beautiful life; how terrible to be behind the scenes and witness the result of the agency of the mocking demon! Events hurry quickly upon each other's heels. The jewels secure an introduction to Faust; the fascination of the man is stronger than the girl's inborn faith; and so we hurry on to the climax, meeting death and destruction at every turn. It makes the heart bleed to see this poor creature scorned and flouted by the girls who were her best companions; to watch her kneeling in prayer with her pierced heart exposed before us; to hear the outpourings of her soul as in the church her lamentation is drowned by the mocking of the devil, who is whispering into her ear; to behold her white face as her dying brother—the brother she had loved—curses her as a wanton.

It is a relief to get away from the poignancy of despair to the fierce revels on the Brocken Mountain, on which Mr. Irving has expended his rich ingenuity of invention. The stage of no country has seen such a spectacle before—nothing so daring, nothing so superbly bold in colour and idea. It is an insult to call such an imaginative scene a pantomime. Grotesque it must be: wild, fantastic, unearthly, and terrible; but over all is set the seal of art. The master hand is there, in the midst of this seething cauldron of devilry. Contrasted with these grey-greens and green-grey—with these winged and capering devils—with these apes and lizards—these newts and blind-worms—these lovely lost women and gibbering old men, stands the cruel but triumphant scarlet figure of the representative of evil. Here he is at home. His mocking and mischievous face relaxes into serenity in this godless company. There are no crosses here to uplift over his accursed head, no holy water to shudder at, no church bells to madden his ears, no shrines that he must pass in horror. Here there is nought but shrieking and despair; here only are signs of an eternity of distraction. Fine as is Mr. Irving's idea of Mephisto, throughout the play, biting as is his cynicism, thorough as is his humour, commanding as is his presence, it is in this marvellous scene that his individuality is best shown. He has nothing to say, only to look. His words are immaterial—but in that face there is a world of meaning. No one but an imaginative actor could have conceived such a picture, or overmastered it with such a commanding presence. All the preconceived visions of Manfred and Sarcanapalus and Belshazzar pale before this extraordinary scene. In it we detect the weird fancy of Gustave Doré, the splendid daring and invention of John Martin.

Again, with eyes heated and brains almost on fire, we get back to Margaret in her prison cell, her wrists manacled, lying on the straw under the shadow of a cross to which she is to cling. No one can help her now. Her reason has gone. The death of mother, brother, and child are at her door. No piteous lamentation of Faust can recall her to her old life, or undo the terror of the past. But the God who once made her pure has not neglected mercy. The devil's hold on her is released. A voice comes out of Heaven, crying "Saved!" and the poor weary soul is borne heavenwards on a white ladder of angels' wings!

A work such as this is of no ordinary significance on the stage. We are told sometimes that nobody wants to think at the theatre, and that the essence of dramatic presentation is mere amusement. One part, surely, of the purpose of the drama is to stimulate the intellect and to strengthen the imagination. Mr. Irving has done this by his production of "Faust"; he has sent us all to the immortal poem; the story and its associations are on a thousand lips. The little slips and errors in illustration are easily pardoned. It should be enough for one undertaking so vast as this to get, in addition to scenes of unparalleled costliness and magnificence, an ideal Mephisto, an absolutely ideal Margaret. The beauty of Miss Terry's performance cannot be dismissed in a few words or lines. It is distinctly the most imaginative work this gifted lady has ever given to the stage. Never did she act better; never has she looked so well. She had gazed into some magic mirror, and returned the strong reflection of the Ellen Terry of days gone by. She has returned, and holds fast to that which those around her have all lost, or are losing—youth and activity. Among her companions she is the youngest still. What matter that the Faust cannot realize the fervour and passion of the love-scene, or that the Martha is not the Martha of the poem, though an example of excellent art? Such a Margaret atones for many a blemish. She is the life and soul of this incomparable play. To see her acting at its best, full attention must be given to the death of Valentine, a scene that is worked up to animation and lifelike reality by Mr. George Alexander, one of the few young actors who are not modern, conventional, and commonplace, when they are engaged on poetic work. His death-scene of Valentine, in arrangement, colour, and execution, is as fine a moment as the modern stage can point to—even finer, in its way, than the church-scene in "Much Ado About Nothing." C. S.

DEATHS.

On Wednesday, the 16th inst., at Eltham Park, Kent, Mary, widow of the late Thomas Jackson, Esq., in her 89th year.

On the 17th inst., at Bickley, Kent, Emma De Blois, widow of the late George Hay Donaldson, aged 71.

* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

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MONTE CARLO.—THE ADMINISTRATION OF MONTE CARLO, in its endeavour to diversify the brilliant and exceptional entertainments offered to the Cosmopolitan High Life frequenting the shores of the Mediterranean during the Winter Season 1885-6, has much pleasure in announcing the following remarkable representations, for which purpose Mr. Fabian has already engaged—

Mesdames Isaac, Galli-Marié, Franck Duvernoy, Mons. Bertin-Tauffenberg, &c.

In JANUARY and APRIL will be PERFORMED—
LA GRAND MOGUL, LA PETITE MARIEE, LA JOLIE PARFUMEUSE, LA MASCOITE, &c.

In FEBRUARY and MARCH—
LALLA ROUKH, HAYDEE, CARMEN, LE TOREADOR, &c.

THE INTERNATIONAL PIGEON-SHOOTING AT MONACO, 1885-6.

These International Meetings (First Series) commenced on Tuesday, Dec. 15, and will be continued every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday up to Jan. 14, 1886. Special prizes are added to each of the events.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL MEETING.

Saturday, Jan. 16: Grand Poule d'Essai. 2000f.
Tuesday, Jan. 19: Prix d'Ouverture. 3000f. and an object of Art.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22 and 23: Grand Prix du Casino. An object of Art of 5000f. and 20,000f.

Monday, Jan. 25: Prix de Monte Carlo (Grand Handicap). An object of Art and 3000f.
Thursday, Jan. 28: Prix de Consolation (Handicap). An object of Art and 1000f.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 29 and 30: Second Universal Championship (Triennial). A good Gun and 5000f.

Besides, the Stand will be opened every Monday and Friday from Jan. 10 until Feb. 28 for Pools and Matches.

A Second Series of Meetings will take place immediately after the GRAND CONCOURS, and be continued until March 10, every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Thursday and Friday, March 11 and 12: The Grand Prix de Cloture. An object of Art and 5000f., will be followed by a Third Series of Meetings until April. For full particulars, address M. A. BLODIN, Secretary, Pigeon-Shooting, Monte Carlo.

SEA BATHING AT MONACO.

This is pursued during the Winter Season, on a sandy beach, facing the Grand Hôtel des Bains. MONTE CARLO is supplied with the following superior Hotels—Grand Hôtel de Paris, the Grand Hôtel, the Victoria, Hôtel des Anglais, Grand Hôtel de Monte Carlo, Hôtel de Russie, Beau Rivage, &c.; and furnished villas, together with excellent apartments, are to be obtained.

NICE CARNIVAL.

CORSO CARNIALESQUE.

Masked Revelries, Promenade of Allegorical Cars, Cavalcades, Masquerades.

CORSO DE GALA.

Bataille de Fleurs, Bataille de Confetti.

Vegione, Masked and Costume Balls,

Grand Charity Fancy Fair.

Moccolletti, Serenades, Torchlight Parades, Electric Lights, Fireworks, Illuminations.

Further particulars will be duly announced.

CHRISTMAS LECTURES.—ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W.—Professor DEWAR, M.A., F.R.S., will deliver a Course of SIX LECTURES (adapted to a Juvenile Auditory) on THE STORY OF A METEORITE (with Experimental Illustrations), commencing on TUESDAY NEXT, DEC. 29, at Three o'clock; to be continued on Dec. 31; and Jan. 2, 5, 7, 9, 1886. Subscription (for non-Members) to this Course, One Guinea (Children under Sixteen, Half a Guinea); for all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. Tickets may now be obtained at the Institution.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ST. JAMES'S GRAND HALL.—THE

MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS' TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL YULETIDE FESTIVITIES will commence on BOXING DAY, SATURDAY, DEC. 26,

in the ST. JAMES'S GRAND HALL, which offers ample accommodation for FIVE THOUSAND VISITORS.

An entirely New Programme of the Grandest and most Attractive Character will be presented EVERY DAY at THREE; EVERY NIGHT at EIGHT.

First time of singing "Can I forget?" "Mother's fond words." "Swinging on the old rustic gate." Extra Special—"There's a light in the window." "The old red cradle." "Bold Jack Tar." The clouds have rolled by. The infinitely and immensely popular comedian G. W. Moore in new comic songs and a new ludget of glorious fun. First appearance of the Adison Boys, who created such a marked sensation last year at the Savoy Theatre in the "Princes of Penzance." Mr. G. W. Moore, assisted by his charming daughter, Victoria, will perform the marvellous suspension act for the first time. The great pianist of comedians and dancers, including Pete Mark, Ernest Linden, E. Somers, John Ke nile, E. Stratton, and Edwin French, the prince of banjo performers, will all take part in the monster Holiday Entertainment.—Tickets and places can now be secured at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall. No fees. Doors open at 1.30 and at 7.

ST. JAMES'S GRAND HALL.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Those truly great and immortal juvenile Artists, THE ADISONs, who created such a furore in the "Princes of Penzance," when it was performed by the Children's Company at the Savoy Theatre last Christmas, have been engaged for a brief period by the Directors of the

MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS,

and will appear in the monster Holiday Entertainment, ST. JAMES'S GREAT HALL, on BOXING DAY.

Performances: EVERY DAY at Three; EVERY NIGHT at Eight.

ART AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

The winter exhibition of pictures at the Albert Palace, in Battersea Park, is chiefly noticeable on account of the interesting collection of views of Old London included in its scope. The works are, necessarily, works lent on loan by lucky inheritors or still luckier collectors of such reminiscences of the past. Possibly, as works of art, many of the views do not rise to a very high level; although those of Paul Sandby, Samuel Scott (the English Cavaletta), and C. H. Norris are of great merit; and one picture—that of "Henry VII.'s Chapel" (30), by Richard Wilson—is an admirable specimen of that truthful master's work. It is most interesting, however, to trace the growth of London on all sides, whether it be the "View of the Mall, St. James's Park" (36), one of the oldest of the sketches, and taken from the site of what is now Buckingham Palace, or that of the same park, from "Wilkes' House" (110), situated where Storey's Gate now stands, and giving some idea of how the troops were encamped there in 1780. Other views show us "Bloomsbury-square" (19), when Southampton House occupied the site of the present Bedford-place, and when beyond it—as also to the north of "Queen-square" (27)—there were no houses or streets; whilst "Hanover-square" (40), painted about the same time, has a far less suburban air. From such pictures as that of "Kew Bridge" (89) and the "Nine Elms Steam-boat Pier" (80), we get some notion what sort of conveyances went by the name of steam-boats in the infancy of the art of steam locomotion; whilst in "Beating the Bounds" (32), "Covent-garden Market" (24), and the "Old Bower Theatre" (52), we have reminiscences of bygone habits and places more truthful than pleasant, perhaps, to the principal actor in the first-named work; for we have here the charity-boy being "bumped" by the parish beadle, as a means of effectually implanting in his memory the parochial boundaries, in case they might ever come to be questioned. As a useful and explanatory supplement to the "Old London" of South Kensington, we can recommend the loan collection at the Albert Palace to the attention of holiday folk of all ages.

Raffaello's picture of the "Three Graces," which for £25,000 has passed from the Dudley (or, as it was formerly called, Ward) collection to that of the Duc d'Aumale, is one of the artist's smallest works, measuring only 6½ in. by 4½ in. It has certain touches of ornament in common with "The Vision of the Knight," in our National Gallery, and both pictures were at one time in the possession of Sir Thomas Lawrence. In date of execution "The Vision of the Knight" was about a year earlier than the "Graces," which was painted about 1506, whilst Raffaello was stopping at Siena, on his way to Rome for the first time. Both pictures bear witness of the transitional art of the painter from the Umbrian to the Tuscan school; the "Graces" being, in fact, three studies of the same model, who was doubtless a Tuscan peasant. As to the varying prices realised by the "Graces," we have no authentic record. It came, together with the "Vision of the Knight," direct from the Borghese collection, and was probably sold for a few hundreds, for we know that Sir Thomas Lawrence was a successful dealer, and that he was content to sell the companion picture for £470 to Sir M. Sykes. This work passed after his death to Sir William Egerton, from whom it was subsequently purchased by the National Gallery for £1050.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works on the 18th inst., it was agreed to urge upon the Government the formation of a public roadway in a direct line with the Strand to the Mall.

Those who desire to see equestrian performances in perfection, renowned riders, graceful gymnasts, and admirably-trained horses, should pay a visit to Hengler's Cirque, Argyl-street, Oxford-street.

A spectacle of great magnificence has been prepared at the Royal Victoria Hall and Coffee Tavern, Waterloo Bridge-road, for Christmas, entitled "King He's-a-Bore, the Plague of his Dear Mah!" The scenery is splendid.

Verdi's long-projected opera, "Jago" ("Iago"), seems likely now soon to find a hearing. It is stated that the composer was so greatly pleased with the libretto prepared for him by Arrigo Boito (the eminent poet-composer) that he has completed the work, which he had suspended; and it is now believed that the opera will be produced next spring.

For the second time, the Mayor of Liverpool gives to the poor of that city 1000 hot dinners on Christmas Day. This gift will be supplemented by 300 other "hot pots" from private individuals. As each hot pot will contain 3 lb. of beef and 7 lb. of potatoes, accompanied by a 4 lb. loaf, about 13,000 persons will thus be provided with a Christmas Day's dinner.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Mr. WILSON BARRETT,

Lessee and Manager. CLOSED until Saturday. At Two and Eight, the New Play, by Henry Arthur Jones and Wilson Barrett, HOODMAN BLIND. Produced under the sole direction of Mr. Wilson Barrett. Messrs. Wilson Barrett, E. S. Willard, C. Cooper, E. Price, G. Walton, C. Hudson, C. Fulton, Evans, Bernage, Elliott, Barrington, &c., and George Barrett; Miss Eastlake, Mesdames Huntley, Cooke, Clitherow, &c. Prices: Private Boxes, £1 1s. to 2 9s.; Stalls, 10s.; Dress Circle, 6s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; Box-office, 5s. to 1s. Business Manager, Mr. John Cobbe. MORNING PERFORMANCE OF HOODMAN BLIND EVERY SATURDAY at Two.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.—FAUST.—EVERY EVENING, at a Quarter to Eight o'clock, FAUST, adapted and arranged by W. G. Wills, from the first part of Goethe's Tragedy, Mephistopheles, Mr. Henry Irving; Martha, Mrs. Stirling; Margaret, Miss Ellen Terry. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open from Ten to Five. Seats booked one month in advance; also by letter or telegram.—LYCEUM.

HAYMARKET.—Messrs. RUSSELL and BASHFORD have the honour to announce that the Theatre will be CLOSED until SATURDAY, JAN. 2, when will be produced NADJEZDA, by Maurice Barrymore. Seats can now be booked daily from Ten to Five. No fees.—HAYMARKET.

ANNO DOMINI, THE SEARCH FOR BEAUTY, and "The Chosen Five," by EDWIN LONG, R.A. These celebrated Pictures, with other Works, are ON VIEW at the GALLERIES, 108, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORÉ Last Great PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, with his other great pictures. Ten to Six daily. 1s.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS. The WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, 5, Pall-mall East. From Ten till Five. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

INDIA IN LONDON, Langham-place, Regent-street, W. Under the distinguished patronage of Lord Harewood, Under-Secretary of State for India. NOW OPEN, Daily, Eleven a.m. to Ten p.m. The TANJORE NAUTCH GIRLS.

INDIA IN LONDON, Langham-place, W.—PARSEE GYMNASTS, MOHAMMEDAN SNAKE CHARMERS and JUGGLERS, PARSEE WRESTLERS.

INDIA IN LONDON, Langham-place, W.—NATIVE ARTISANS, IVORY CARVERS, SANDAL-WOOD WORKERS, MOHAMMEDAN EMBROIDERS. THE BURMESE PANTOMIME SKETCH by the Parsee Troupe.

INDIA IN LONDON, Langham-place, Regent-street. NOW OPEN, Daily, Eleven a.m. to Ten p.m. THE ANGLO-HUNGARIAN BAND. Admission 1s.; Wednesday 1s.; 2s. 6d.—Manager, DRUXBROCK CUSHEDDI GADIALI.

JAPAN IN LONDON.—UNDER ROYAL PATRONAGE. THE JAPANESE VILLAGE, Albert Gate, Hyde Park, near top of Sloane-street. OPEN DAILY, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Remodelled and Rebuilt on a new and elaborate scale, and fireproof system. Special Programme for the Christmas Holidays. Performances Free, at Twelve, Three, and Eight, in the new Show-rooms. Military and other Bands. Admission One Shilling. Wednesday, Half-a-Crown. Originator and Manager Dr. COE. TANSKAKK BUCHROFAN.

PARLIAMENTARY MAP OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The large Map, printed in colours, which is presented this week as an Extra Supplement to the *Illustrated London News*, shows all the new Electoral Divisions of Counties in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, and the Boroughs and Cities each returning one or several Members (with the Metropolitan Parliamentary Boroughs drawn on a different scale), as settled by the Redistribution of Seats Act, which became law on June 25 this year. The Colours of these County Divisions, and of the small circles or parts of circles indicating City or Borough constituencies, indicate the political character of the members returned by them, at the recent General Election, the Conservatives appearing blue, the Liberals red, and the Irish Home Rulers purple. The whole number of the House of Commons being now fixed at 670, there are 333 Liberals, 251 Conservatives (reckoning with them two "Independent" members likely to support the Conservative Ministry), and 86 Home Rulers, one of whom is elected by a borough division in England. For England and Wales, 223 Conservatives, 271 Liberals, and one Irish Home Ruler have been elected; for Scotland, 62 Liberals, 10 Conservatives, and no Home Ruler; for Ireland, 85 Home Rulers, no Liberals, and 18 Conservatives; making up the 670 members, as stated on the Map.

The entire geographical areas and the ordinary names of complete shires or counties, being already familiar to every reader, do not appear in this Electoral Map; they are superseded by the boundaries and names of the Divisions created under the seventh schedule of the Redistribution of Seats Act. Such names as Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, Berks, Hants, Devon, and Cornwall, are not to be found here; but the spaces commonly denoted by them are filled by the Divisions named from Enfield, Tottenham, Hornsey, Harrow, Ealing, Brentford, and Uxbridge; from Chertsey, Guildford, Reigate, Epsom, Kingston, and Wimbledon; from Sevenoaks, Dartford, Tunbridge, the Medway, Faversham, Ashford, St. Augustine's, and the Isle of Thanet; and so on, with Berkshire, Hampshire, and many other counties, though, in some instances, as in Dorset and Somerset, the old county names reappear, with the limitation of "East" or "West," "North" or "South," and the like, designating particular divisions. In the separate small map of the Metropolitan District, likewise, it will be observed that some of the newly-constituted Boroughs are the several parts of large parishes which have been subdivided, while others comprehend large pieces of London adjacent to the places after which they are named. Thus, we have North, West, East, and South Islington, and the same in St. Pancras; but the Strand, including three parishes, Holborn, embracing a large portion of Finsbury, and extensive constituencies in East London, such as those called the Bethnal-green divisions, signify much more than those streets or districts usually stand for. The system of delimitation and nomenclature is peculiar, and is contrary, in many instances, to former associations. When the eye is reconciled to the new divisions, and the general characteristics of places we knew are merged in their quality as political constituencies, it requires little effort of mind to view them merely as collections of voters. Our statistics, on this occasion, will exhibit the numbers of the electors on the register, not the actual polling at the late elections, and the results to the Parliamentary parties:—

ENGLAND AND WALES.

London.—City: 29,152 registered electors, two members, Conservative. Westminster, 7670, one, C. Strand, 11,264, one, C. Holborn, 9855, C. East Finsbury, 8600, C. Central Finsbury, 7600, Liberal. East Marylebone, 6978, C. West Marylebone, 7677, C. St. George's, Hanover-square, 10,500, C. North Paddington, 5345, C. South Paddington, 5193, C. North Kensington, 8297, C. South Kensington, 8859, C. Chelsea, 11,104, L. North St. Pancras, 5447, L. East St. Pancras, 5913, L. West St. Pancras, 7103, L. South St. Pancras, 5357, L. Hoxton, 8494, L. Haggerston, 6752, L. North Hackney, 8058, C. Central Hackney, 7381, C. South Hackney, 8684, L. North-east Bethnal-green, 7102, L. South-west Bethnal-green, 8265, L. Whitechapel, 6140, L. St. George's East, 4322, C. Limehouse, 5954, C. Mile-end, 5804, C. Stepney, 6926, L. Poplar, 9041, L. Bow and Bromley, 8795, L. Hampstead, 5381, C. Fulham, 6500, C. Hammersmith, 9611, C. Battersea, 10,018, L. Clapham, 9454, L. Kennington, 8313, C. North Lambeth, 7939, C. West Southwark, 7775, L. Rotherhithe, 8455, C. Bermondsey, 9433, L. Walworth, 5038, C. West Newington, 6377, C. Brixton, 7963, C. Peckham, 9716, C. Dulwich, 9863, C. Norwood, 7501, C. Wandsworth, 10,150, C. Deptford, 9831, C. Greenwich, 8632, C. Woolwich, 9769, C. Lewisham, 9261, C. West Ham (North), 10,026, L. West Ham (South), 8942, L.

Middlesex.—Enfield Division, 8621, C. Tottenham Division, 10,887, C. Hornsey, 10,648, C. Harrow, 10,438, C. Ealing, 9283, C. Brentford, 7971, C. Uxbridge, 9902, C.

Surrey.—Chertsey Division, 9204, C. Guildford, 9951, C. Reigate, 9170, C. Epsom, 8960, C. Kingston, 11,086, C. Wimbledon, 13,190, C. Croydon borough, 12,617, C.

Kent.—Sevenoaks Division, 11,090, C. Dartford, 11,172, C. Tunbridge, 11,370, C. Medway, 13,482, C. Faversham, 11,370, C. Ashford, 13,389, C. St. Augustine's, 12,157, C. Thanet, 7941, C. Canterbury city, 3381, C. Chatham, 6228, C. Dover, 4537, C. Gravesend, 4200, C. Maidstone, 4314, C. Rochester, 3304, C. Hythe, 3739, C.

Essex.—Walthamstow Division, 11,233, L. Romford, 12,591, L. Epping, 9233, C. Saffron Walden, 9306, L. Harwich, 10,141, C. Maldon, 9869, L. Chelmsford, 9277, C. South-eastern Division, 9367, C. Colchester borough, 4241, C.

Herts.—Watford Division, 10,029, C. St. Albans, 8741, C. Hitchin, 8996, C. Eastern, 8840, C.

Berks.—Abingdon Division, 8700, C. Newbury, 10,377, C. Wokingham, 9259, C. Windsor borough, 2296, C. Reading, 7517, C.

Bucks.—Wycombe Division, 11,269, C. Aylesbury, 10,535, L. Buckingham, 11,307, L.

Sussex.—Horsham, 8581, C. Chichester, 8502, C. East Grinstead, 7660, C. Lewes, 10,583, C. Eastbourne, 8507, C. Rye, 10,304, C. Brighton (two members for borough), 14,848, C. Hastings, 5672, L.

Hants.—Basingstoke, 7745, C. Andover, 9183, C. Petersfield, 8211, L. Fareham, 12,250, C. New Forest, 9431, C. Christchurch, borough, 4626, C. Portsmouth (two), 20,411, L. Southampton (two), 12,058, C. Isle of Wight, 11,993, C. Winchester, 2388, C.

Wilts.—Cricklade, 9031, L. Chippenham, 8853, L. Westbury, 10,566, L. Devizes, 9387, C. Wilton, 8675, L. Salisbury, 2508, L.

Somerset.—Northern, 10,209, C. Wells, 9501, C. Frome, 10,498, L. Eastern, 9344, L. Southern, 9349, L. Bridgewater, 9861, C. Wellington, 9537, L. Bath (two), 9537, C. L. Taunton, 9349, C.

Dorset.—Northern, 8522, L. Eastern, 9797, L. Southern, 7316, L. Western, 7914, C.

Devon.—Honiton, 9012, C. Tiverton, 9349, C. South Molton, 9343, L. Barnstaple, 10,189, L. Tavistock, 10,851, L. Totnes, 9188, L. Torquay, 7738, L. Ashburton, 9300, L. Devonport (two), 6546, C. Exeter, 7000, C. Plymouth (two), 10,130, C.

Cornwall.—St. Ives, 7606, L. Camborne, 7133, L. Truro, 8825, L. St. Austell, 8890, L. Bodmin, 9158, L. Launceston, 9297, L. Penryn and Falmouth, 2562, L.

Gloucester.—Stroud, 11,665, L. Tewkesbury, 11,665, C. Cirencester, 10,517, L. Forest of Dean, 9437, L. Thornbury (Southern Division), 11,333, L. Bristol city, 7007, L. South, 10,354, L. East, 9508, L. Clifton (West Bristol), 7657, C. Cheltenham, 6697, C. Gloucester city, 5721, L.

Worcester.—Bewdley, 9833, C. Evesham, 9522, C. Droitwich, 9484, C. Northern, 10,578, L. Eastern, 8187, L. Dudley, 14,948, L. Kidderminster, 4547, L. Worcester city, 6714, C.

Warwick.—Tamworth, 10,046, C. Nuneaton, 10,061, L. Stratford-on-Avon, 9631, L. Rugby, 9700, L. Aston Manor, 10,046, L. Birmingham: Edgbaston, 8693, L.; West Birmingham, 10,329, L.; Central, 10,923, L.; North, 9427, L.; East, 9382, L.; Bordesley, 11,178, L.; South Birmingham, 10,643, L. Coventry, 9736, C. Warwick and Leamington, 5491, L.

Oxfordshire.—Banbury, 8478, L. Woodstock, 10,012, L. Henley, 8558, C. Oxford city, 6983, L.

Herefordshire.—Leominster, 9516, L. Ross, 10,580, L. Hereford city, 3390, L.

Monmouthshire.—Northern, 10,703, L. Western, 9770, L. Southern, 11,068, C. Monmouth, 6485, L.

Shropshire.—Oswestry, 10,083, C. Newport, 10,032, L. Wellington, 8961, L. Ludlow, 10,760, L. Shrewsbury, 4131, C.

Staffordshire.—Leek, 10,234, L. Burton, 9400, L. Western, 10,636, L. North-west, 13,322, L. Lichfield, 8842, L. Kingswinford, 12,272, C. Hands-worth, 14,908, L. Hanley, 10,980, L. Newcastle-under-Lyme, 8372, L. Stafford, 3264, L. Stoke-upon-Trent, 9214, L. Walsall, 11,000, L. Wednes-

bury, 10,808, C. West Bromwich, 8749, L. Wolverhampton (East), 7917, L. South, 8636, L. West, 8391, C.

Cheshire.—Wirral, 9772, C. Eddisbury, 10,436, C. Macclesfield, 7211, L. Crewe, 10,815, L. Northwich, 10,577, L. Altrincham, 10,497, C. Hyde, 9328, L. Knutsford, 9314, C. Birkenhead, 12,215, C. Chester, 6296, L. Stockport, 9560, C.

Derbyshire.—High Peak, 9414, C. North-east, 9207, L. Chesterfield, 8616, L. West, 10,310, L. Mid, 9471, L. Ilkeston, 10,660, L. South, 11,575, L. Derby (two), 14,925, L.

Nottingham.—Bassetlaw, 9479, C. Newark, 10,214, C. Rushcliffe, 11,132, L. Mansfield, 11,132, L. Nottingham (West), 14,429, L. East, 12,749, L. South, 12,751, L.

Leicestershire.—Melton, 10,190, C. Loughborough, 9313, L. Bosworth, 9918, L. Harborough, 12,476, L. Leicester Town, 21,671 (two), L.

Rutlandshire.—4166, C.

Lincolnshire.—Gainsborough, 11,107, L. Brigg, 10,323, L. Louth, 10,252, L. Horncastle, 9941, C. Skefthorpe, 9863, C. Stamford, 9741, C. Spalding, 11,597, C. Boston, 2787, L. Grantham, 2863, L. Grimsby, 8762, L. Lincoln, 7715, L.

Northamptonshire.—North, 9741, C. East, 9741, L. Mid, 11,306, L. Towcester, 9636, C. Northampton (two), 9600, L. Peterborough, 3790, C.

Cambridgeshire.—Wisbech, 9530, L. Chesterton, 10,465, C. Newmarket, 8936, L. Cambridge, 6177, C.

Bedfordshire.—Biggleswade, 13,347, L. Luton, 12,125, L. Bedford, 3124, L. Huntingdonshire—Huntingdon, 5655, L. Ramsey, 5919, C.

Suffolk.—Lowestoft, 10,956, L. Eye, 10,993, L. Stowmarket, 10,587, L. Sudbury, 10,522, L. Woodbridge, 12,126, L. Bury St. Edmunds, 2181, C. Ipswich (two), 8760, L.

Norfolk.—North-west, 10,444, L. South-west, 9396, C. North, 9742, L. East, 11,161, C. Mid, 9992, L. South, 10,141, L. King's Lynn, 3060, C. Norwich (two), 15,269, C. Yarmouth, 6950, C.

Yorkshire.—Thirsk and Malton, 12,637, C. Richmond, 11,237, L. Cleveland, 11,788, L. Whitby, 11,350, C. Holderness, 9143, C. Buckrose, 9113, C. Howdenshire, 9602, C. Skipton, 10,796, L. Keighley, 10,072, L. Shipley, 14,066, L. Sowerby, 11,364, L. Elland, 11,851, L. Morley, 11,467, C. Normanton, 14,479, L. Colne Valley, 10,881, L. Holmfirth, 10,770, L. Barnsley, 11,000, L. Hallamshire 13,176, L. Rotherham, 10,730, L. Doncaster, 13,158, L. Ripon, 9049, L. Otley, 9855, L. Barksdon Ash, 8441, C. Osgoldcross, 10,322, L. Pudsey, 11,989, L. Spen Valley, 9645, L. Bradford (three), West, 8988, L. Central, 11,297, L. East, 10,270, L. Dewsbury, 11,000, L. Halifax (two), 12,289, L. Huddersfield, 14,991, L. Leeds (five), North, 10,128, C. Central, 11,135, C. East, 8831, C. West, 12,058, L. South, 10,931, L. Middlesbrough, 11,788, L. Pontefract, 2497, C. Scarborough, 4666, C. Sheffield (five), Attercliffe, 9751, L. Brightside, 9238, L. Central, 9923, C. Hallam, 7486, C. Ecclesall, 8904, C. Wakefield, 4800, C. York (two), 12,418, L.

Lancashire.—North Lonsdale, 9219, C. Lancaster, 8961, C. Blackpool, 11,903, C. Chorley, 9881, C. Darwen, 12,629, C. Clitheroe, 13,689, L. Accrington, 10,797, L. Rossendale, 11,450, L. West Houghton, 10,625, C. Heywood, 9269, L. Middleton, 11,748, L. Radcliffe and Farnworth, 10,433, L. Eccles, 9871, C. Salford, 11,140, L. Gorton, 10,338, L. Prestwich, 11,156, L. Southport, 8437, L. Ormskirk, 8714, C. Boodle, 16,863, C. Widnes, 8223, C. St. Helens, 8309, C. Newton, 9344, C. Ince, 9157, C. Leigh, 8572, L. Ashton-under-Lime, 6553, C. Barrow-in-Burness, 6660, L. Blackburn (two), 16,331, C. Bolton (two), 16,863, C. Burnley, 9635, L. Preston (two), 13,597, C. Wigan, 6842, C. Rochdale, 10,808, L. Oldham (two), 26,030, L. C. Stalybridge, 6424, C. Bury, 8214, L. Warrington, 8030, C. Liverpool (nine), Kirkdale, 8346, C. Walton, 7693, C. Everton, 9439, C. West Derby, 8873, C. Scotland, 7075, H. R. Exchange, 8171, C. Abercrombie, 9137, C. East Toxteth, 7992, C. West Toxteth, 7684, C. Manchester (six), North-west, 12,685, C. North, 8703, C. North-east, 8579, C. East, 9779, C. South, 8534, L. South-west, 8890, L. Salford (three), North, 7734, C. West, 8197, L. South, 8622, L.

Westmoreland.—Appleby, 6673, C. Kendal, 6149, C.

Cumberland.—Eskdale, 10,000, L. Penrith, 9076, L. Cockermouth, 9587, C. Egremont, 9094, C. Carlisle, 5726, L. Whitehaven, 2767, C.

Durham.—Jarrow, 12,897, L. Houghton-le-Spring, 12,992, L. Chester-le-Street, 11,830, L. North-west, 9543, L. Mid, 11,053, L. South-east, 13,169, L. Bishop Auckland, 9858, L. Barnard Castle, 9991, L. Darlington, 5907, L. Durham city, 2302, C. Gateshead, 13,206, L. Hartlepool, 8505, L. South Shields, 11,228, L. Stockton, 9179, L. Sunderland, 17,978, L.

Northumberland.—Wansbeck, 9941, L. Tyneside, 11,640, L. Hexham, 10,225, L. Berwick-upon-Tweed, 9641, L. Newcastle-on-Tyne (two), 30,314, L. Morpeth, 6119, L. Tynemouth, 6207, C.

Flintshire.—County, 10,082, L. Flint borough district, 3773, L.

Radnorshire.—County, 4400, C.

Montgomeryshire.—County, 8869, L. Borough district, 2955, C.

Denbighshire.—Bromfield, 8297, L. Vale of Clwyd, 8899, L. Denbigh borough district, 3407, C.

Brecknockshire.—County, 9520, L.

Glamorganshire.—Eastern, 8544, L. Rhondda, 8210, L. Gower, 10,500, L. Mid, 8979, L. South, 8806, L. Cardiff, 12,600, L. Merthyr Tydfil (two), 15,196, L. Swansea district, 8956, L. Swansea town, 7594, L.

Carmarthenshire.—East, 8669, L. West, 9669, L. Carmarthen, 5939, L.

Pembrokeshire.—County, 10,941, L. Pembroke and Haverfordwest boroughs, 5474, L.

Cardiganshire.—County, 18,123, L.

Merionethshire.—County, 9300, L.

Carnarvonshire.—Northern, 9157, L. Southern, 8966, L. Carnarvon boroughs, 4488, L.

Angeley.—County, 8750, L.

English Universities.—Oxford (two), 5473, C. Cambridge (two), 6505, C. London, 2400, L.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh (four).—East, 7618, L. West, 7460, L. Central, 8158, L. South, 8712, L. Leith, 11,779, L.

Midlothian, 13,000, L. (Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.)

Glasgow (seven).—Bridgeton, 10,058, L. Camachie, 19,220, L. St. Rollox, 11,926, L. Central, 13,208, L. College Ward, 11,934, L. Tradeston, 9222, L. Hutchesontown and Blackfriars, 9725, L.

Lanarkshire.—Govan, 8998, C. Partick, 8945, L. North-west, 9374, C. North-east, 10,814, L. Mid, 8939, L. South, 8994, L.

Aberdeenshire.—East, 12,522, L. West, 12,500, L. Aberdeen City: North, 8256, L.; South, 7813, L.

Ayrshire. 10,011, L. Ayrshire, North, 12,465, L. South, 15,169, L.

Ayr district, 5443, L. Kilmarnock, 10,475, C. Banffshire, 7018, L. Berwickshire, 5982, L. Butehire, 2943, C. Caithness, 4320, L. Wick, 2015, L.

Clackmannan and Kinross, 6930, L. Dumbartonshire, 10,063, C. Dumfriesshire, 9489, L. Dumfries burghs, 3148, L. Elgin and Nairn, 5796, L. Elgin district, 4196, L. Fifehire, East, 9233, L. West, 8436, L. Kirkcaldy, 5394, L. St. Andrew's, 2857, L. Forfarshire, 11,232, L. Dundee (two), 17,420, L.

Montrose, 8967, L. Haddingtonshire, 6487, L. Linlithgowshire, 6808, L. Peebles and Selkirk, 3250, L. Kincardine, 5580, L. Kirkcaldy, 5720, C. Roxburgh, 6180, L. Hawick burghs, 5678, L. Ross and Cromarty, 9980, L. Sutherland, 3185, L. Wigtownshire, 6004, C. Orkney and Shetland, about 7000, L.

Invernesshire, 9330, L. Inverness town and district, 3556, L.

Perthshire.—East, 6551, L. West, 8234, L. Perth city, 4126, L.

Renfrewshire.—East, 8295, L. West, 7746, C. Greenock, 7131, L. Paisley, 6794, L.

Stirlingshire, 12,486, L. Falkirk, 7109, L. Stirling burghs, 5228, L.

Scottish Universities.—Edinburgh and St. Andrew's, 6665, C. Glasgow and Aberdeen, 6918, C.

IRELAND.

Dublin City (four).—College-Green, 11,586, H.R. Harbour, 10,004, H.R. St. Stephen's-Green, 10,277, H.R. St. Patrick's, 8906, H.R.

Dublin County.—North, 12,331, H.R.; South, 11,316, H.R.

Cork County.—North, 7827, H.R. North-east, 8175, H.R. Mid, 7409, H.R. East, 6934, H.R. West, 6126, H.R. South, 7299, H.R. South-east, 8007, H.R. Cork City (two), 14,569, H.R.

Meath.—North, 6652, H.R. South, 6320, H.R. Longford.—North, 3714, H.R. South, 4426, H.R. Louth.—North, 5935, H.R. South, 5769, H.R.

Westmeath.—North, 5507, H.R. South, 5419, H.R. **Kildare.**—North, 5108, H.R. South, 5070, H.R. **Wicklow.**—West, 5225, H.R. East, 5569, H.R.

Carlow.—6891, H.R. **King's County.**—Tullamore, 5162, H.R. Birr, 5236, H.R. **Queen's County.**—Ossory, 5619, H.R. Leix, 5472, H.R. **Kilkenny.**—North, 5647, H.R. South, 5924, H.R. Kilkenny Town, 1839, H.R. **Wexford.**—North, 9768, H.R. South, 9680, H.R.

Tipperary.—North, 7500, H.R. South, 6841, H.R. Mid, 6517, H.R. East, 6899, H.R. **Waterford.**—West, 6022, H.R. East, 5678, H.R. **Waterford city,** 3946, H.R. **Clare.**—East, 10,128, H.R. West, 9813, H.R. **Limerick.**—West, 7824, H.R. East, 8474, H.R. **Limerick city,** 5973, H.R. **Kerry.**—North, 5972, H.R. South, 4529, H.R. East, 5971, H.R. West, 5668, H.R.

Galway.—Connemara, 5842, H.R. North Galway, 5927, H.R. East, 8083, H.R. South, 7720, H.R. **Galway city,** 2265, H.R. **Roscommon.**—North, 8682, H.R. South, 9254, H.R. **Mayo.**—North, 7413, H.R. West, 8009, H.R. East, 8149, H.R. South, 7980, H.R. **Sligo.**—North, 7869, H.R. South, 7698, H.R. **Leitrim.**—North, 12,784, H.R. South, 6270, H.R.

Irish University.—Dublin (two), 4127, C.

ULSTER.

Antrim.—North, 8948, C. Mid, 8307, C. East, 8772, C. South, 10,824, C. **Belfast (four).**—East, 8661, C. South, 6740, C. North, 6831, C. West, 8131, C.

Londonderry County.—North, 11,183, C. South, 10,728, H.R. **Londonderry city,** 3873, C.

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THE WAR IN THE EAST.

SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. J. SCHÖNBERG.



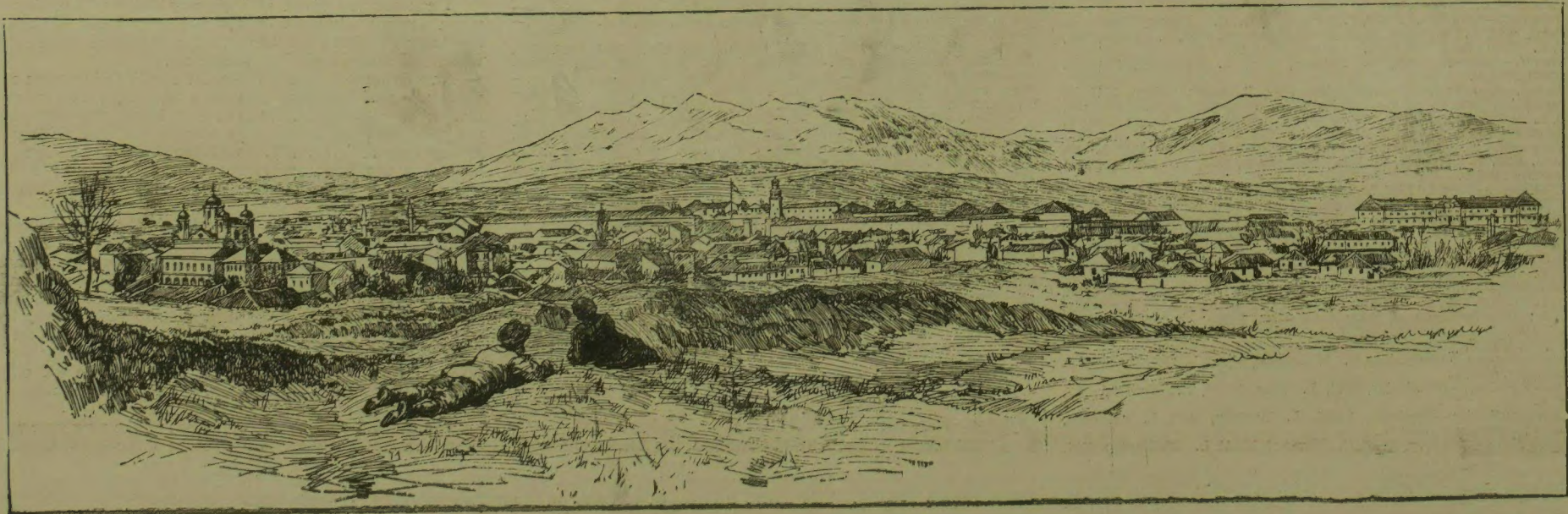
SCENE BEFORE THE DRUGGIST'S SHOP AT PIROT.

On Monday last the International Commission at Sofia signed a protocol embodying the following decisions:—The Servians to evacuate Bulgarian territory by Dec. 25, and the Bulgarians to evacuate Pirot by Dec. 27; the armistice to continue until March 1. The Bulgarian and Servian delegates appended their signatures to the protocol. The members of the Military Commission have viewed the Servian and Bulgarian positions near Pirot, accompanied by a Servian or Bulgarian representative, according to the side they were visiting; but neither the Bulgarian nor Servian representative was allowed to take part in the deliberations of the Com-

missioners, or to cross the lines. Before starting for Pirot, the Commissioners agreed to base their decisions upon the fact that the Bulgarians, having been victorious in the main actions, which took place in the south, were to be regarded as having obtained the strongest military position. Prince Alexander submitted that his troops should be left at Pirot till the conclusion of the peace, but has promised to abide by the arbitration of the Commission.

Another Sketch by M. Bernard, drawn expressly for the *Illustrated London News*, by special permission of Prince Alexander, is that of the picket of the first Bulgarian out-

post on the road to Nish; the Engraving on the first page of our Supplement shows the Bulgarian camp in the Dragoman Pass; and that on the front page of this sheet represents Bulgarian troops crossing the Servian frontier. Our Special Artist with the Servian army, Mr. John Schönberg, furnishes several Sketches, including those of the town and fortress of Nish, the Servian military field-kitchen there, and the troops leaving the fortress after getting their arms. There is also a scene incidental to the fighting at Pirot, in the streets of the town: the wounded were seeking aid at the druggist's or apothecary's shop.



VIEW OF NISH, FROM THE GORITEA HILLS.

T H E W A R I N T H E E A S T.

FROM A SKETCH BY M. BERNARD, BY SPECIAL PERMISSION OF PRINCE ALEXANDER.



THE FIRST BULGARIAN OUTPOST PICKET ON THE ROAD TO NISH.

GIFT-BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS.

Many picture-books, in the production of which clever artists have had their graceful, amusing, or fanciful designs seconded by engravers, and in some instances by colour-printers, with commendable skill, are provided for the entertainment of anybody's children. *Through the Meadows*, published by Hildesheimer and Faulkner, is a collection of Mr. F. E. Weatherly's pleasing songs and little tales in verse, illustrated with coloured plates from designs by M. E. Edwards, and with vignette woodcuts by J. C. Staples. Mr. R. Caldecott has made humorous designs for the *Panjantrum Picture-Book* (G. Routledge and Sons), which contains five stories, four of them in verse, one being our old friend "Madam Blaize," ending with that exquisite piece of nonsense, "The Great Panjantrum Himself," extemporised by a famous wit in the last century. The stories can also be had separately. Mr. Walter Crane has "deciphered," as he says, the geography and history of "Slateandpencilvania" (Marcus Ward and Co.), where a boy named Dick, sailing on a strange voyage, finds plenty of slates and some very curious people. Mr. Harrison Weir's *Animal Stories, Old and New* (Sampson Low and Co.), are told in plain prose, relating many authentic instances of the habits and faculties of domestic animals; while his drawings, always true to nature, enhance the interest of these anecdotes; they are engraved and printed, mostly in tints, by Mr. Edmund Evans. Mr. T. Pym, an artist with a happy talent for drawing pretty children, has designed the engravings for a story of child-life by L. T. Meade, called *The Angel of Love* (Hodder and Stoughton), which appeals to the best moral and religious sentiments, and is a narrative that will be interesting to thoughtful little girls. We can heartily recommend "Chatty Cheerful's" pleasant history of *The Little Doings of Some Little Folks* (Cassell and Co.), which is freely and boldly illustrated, giving delightful accounts of Uncle Joe's country house in Yorkshire, and Uncle William's in London, with their respective large families of merry boys and girls. The Hon. Emmeline Plunket has collected, and has furnished with graceful scenes and groups, and with tasteful page decorations, splendidly coloured, a series of *Merric Games in Rhyme, from the Olden Time* (Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.), some of which have long been sung in English nurseries. The same publishers offer a set of blue pictures of an extensive assortment of the rarest and finest china, porcelain, and pottery, extant in museums or private collections, selected and drawn by Mrs. Burne, making an instructive accompaniment to the short pieces of verse, entitled *Dame Marjorie's Chimney-Corner*, with illustrations by H. I. A. Miles. One of the most interesting subjects in natural history is made still more attractive to the imagination by Mr. Maurice Noel's *Buz: the Life and Adventures of a Honey-Bee* (J. W. Arrowsmith, Bristol), with a frontispiece drawn by Mr. Linley Sambourne. A tale of domestic life, *Sylvia's Daughters* (F. Warne and Co.), written by Florence Scannell, is adorned by Edith Scannell with very charming pictures, full of character and grace, printed in sepia by Edmund Evans. The coloured drawings of *Little Chicks and Baby Tricks* (Griffith and Farran), by Ida Waugh, are spirited and natural in gesture and action. Miss Caroline Paterson's designs for *Three Fairy Princesses* (Marcus Ward and Co.), namely, Snow White, the Sleeping Beauty, and Cinderella, show artistic power of conception; the frontispiece is printed in gold, and some of the other pictures in colours. We have spoken of Mr. T. Pym, whose *A.B.C., Drawn and Coloured* (Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.), is a most inviting alphabet for the youngest learner. Mr. R. André, also an artist of considerable talent and versatility, has been employed by the S.P.C.K. to illustrate the late Mrs. Juliana Horatia Ewing's short stories, in verse and in prose, *The Mill-stream, Convalescence, Baby, Puppy, and Kitty*; he has also written stories of his own—namely, *The Oak and the Nettle, A Patchwork Quilt, The Doormat and the Scraper, The Pebble in the Brook, The Butterfly and the Toad, and The Modern Giant-Killer*. Several publishers, Messrs. G. Routledge and Sons, F. Warne and Co., Dean and Son, James Clarke and Co., and others, have contributed to the host of picture-books for children.

Taking leave of those infantine diversions, and rising to the classical theme of an historical romance by a learned Professor, a fit present for an advanced public-school boy, *Paulo majora canamus*. The author is the Rev. A. J. Church, Professor at University College, London, whose "Stories from Homer" and "Roman Life in the Days of Cicero" have gained public approval. His new book, *Two Thousand Years Ago* (Blackie and Son), relates the adventures of Lucius, a Roman boy, in the last years of the Republic, after Sulla's victory in the civil wars, and down to the period when the empire was divided between Antony, in the East, and Octavius Cæsar (Augustus) in the West. That stirring age of great conflicts and political vicissitudes will always be interesting from its dramatic turns of action, and from the personal renown of the chief agents, not less than from the vast importance of its events to the whole civilised world. Such memorable transactions as the revolt of the slaves and fugitives led by Spartacus, the troubles in Sicily, the insurrection of Sertorius in Spain, the war against Mithridates, in Pontus, and the suppression of piracy in the Mediterranean, by the arms of Pompey, form an imposing background to this sketch of the active life of a youthful soldier. Professor Church is excellently qualified to deal with a subject of this kind; and he has exercised, in the invention and conduct of his narrative, a degree of ability for which readers of his preceding works may have been prepared to look in such a composition.

Historical periods of stirring action continue to be chosen for the sake of adding dignity to fictitious biography. *With the King at Oxford*, by the Rev. Alfred Church (Seeley and Co.), is an episode of the Civil War in Charles I.'s time, narrated in good old-fashioned English by Philip Dashwood, of Lincoln College, the son of a Royalist, an eye-witness of several battles, especially that at Naseby, and finally, of the trial and beheading of his Majesty. The narrative is well sustained, quite in character, and brings in many topographical and antiquarian details hitherto unnoticed. It is illustrated by sixteen engravings, some of which are coloured. Mrs. Holt (Emily Sarah Holt), the authoress of several books of this class, dealing successfully with such passages of English history, takes up, in *A Tangled Web* (J. F. Shaw and Co.), the obscure and intricate problem of the affair of Perkin Warbeck, as he is vulgarly called—the Flemish youth, Piers Van Osbeck, of Tournay, possibly an illegitimate son of King Edward IV., whom the Duchess Margaret of Burgundy set up as a pretender to the throne against Henry VII. He was certainly no son of Queen Elizabeth Woodville, and, therefore, no true heir; but his claim was favoured by King James IV. of Scotland, and the fate of a noble Scottish lady, given in marriage to the unlucky adventurer, is an engaging theme for a romance. Mrs. Holt has managed this subject well, as a story partly of her own conception, and has appended an essay upon the actual probabilities of the affair, which shows careful study and judgment. The Revolution of 1688, with the deposition of James II. and the advent of William and Mary, forms the background of a tale

called *My Mistress, the Queen*, by M. A. Paull (Blackie and Son), supposed to be told by a lady named Frances Heber; and narrated in a quiet, womanly manner, with fairly good sketches of country life.

Mr. R. Louis Stevenson, a genuine humourist, and author of captivating romances, has made another decided hit in *Treasure Island* (Cassell and Co.), which is one of the stories of the old buccaneers in the West Indies, or on the "Spanish Main," and of buried hoards of coin, "pieces of eight," as we remember, that were formerly rife in popular fiction. As a companion story, on land, in the parched interior of South Africa, *King Solomon's Mines*, by Mr. H. Rider Haggard, who was in the Transvaal some years ago, may be recommended for the powerful imaginative and descriptive faculties it displays, and for the exciting quality of its adventurous incidents. Boys will like both these books.

Some books there are which deal with such good and noble subjects that they cannot fail to be profitable reading. Among these volumes, we will mention *Three Martyrs of the Nineteenth Century*, Dr. Livingstone, General Gordon, and Bishop Patteson, whose lives, crowned by deaths which sealed the record of Christian valour and fidelity, are portrayed by the author of "The Schönberg-Cotta Family" (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge). The same kind of benefit, more or less, may be got from perusing the biographical series, published by Cassell and Co., of *The World's Workers*, mostly contemporary worthies—Havelock, Lord Clyde, Abraham Lincoln, Richard Cobden, Livingstone, George Moore, George Müller, Turner the painter, and Sir Titus Salt, being among them; with Benjamin Franklin and Handel, of the last century. Boys, however, naturally crave for tales of combat and peril, going forth in imagination to conquer the earth and its opposing forces. Here is *A Soldier Born*, by J. Percy Groves (Griffith, Farran, and Co.), being the performance of a gallant subaltern in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny; also, *For Name and Fame*, by G. A. Henty (Blackie and Son), a story of the last Afghan War; *From Pole to Pole*, by Dr. Gordon Stables, R.N., comprising Arctic exploration, adventures in the Mozambique Channel, and shipwreck in the Southern Ocean; *Great Battles of the British Navy*, by Lieutenant C. R. Low, late of the Indian Navy (G. Routledge and Sons); *Famous Discoveries by Land and Sea* (Blackie and Son); *The Lost Trail*, by Edward Ellis, and *Camp Fire and Wigwag*, in the "Log-Cabin Series" of Cassell and Co.; *Among the Carbonari*, by G. Stebbing (Hatchards), a tale of French and Italian political conspirators; *The Dragon and the Raven*, by G. A. Henty, with illustrations by C. Staniland (Blackie and Son), which relates the conflicts of Saxons and Danes in the time of King Alfred; *The Champion of Odin; or, Viking Life in the Days of Old*, by J. F. Hodgetts (Cassell and Co.); *The Vee Boers*, by the late Captain Mayne Reid (G. Routledge and Sons); *The King of the Tigers*, by Louis Rousset (Sampson Low and Co.); *The Rover of the Andes*, by R. M. Ballantyne (J. Nisbet and Co.); *The Cruise of the Theseus*, by Arthur Knight (Griffith and Farran), a naval service narrative of the Zanzibar slave squadron, and of the Black Sea during the Russian War; finally, Dr. James Macaulay's compilation of *Stirring Stories of Peace and War, by Sea and Land* (Hodder and Stoughton), more interesting than most fiction.

BURKE'S PEERAGE AND BARONETAGE, 1886.

Ins and outs of parties, general elections, and Parliamentary vicissitudes all tend to the increase of hereditary honours. Many a worthy county squire, many an ambitious lawyer, owes his coronet to an election defeat. We must, however, travel a long way back to discover a parallel for the numerous creations of the last few months. It is quite evident, therefore, that every one who inclines to indulge in a copy of "Burke's Peerage and Baronetage" would do well to select this edition, which is exceptional in interest and perfect in all the details, personal and historical, not only of the new Peers and Baronets, but also of every titled personage. Since May the additions to the Peerage have been, without mentioning baronies conferred on Scotch and Irish Lords, the titles of Iddesleigh, Halsbury, Rothschild, Revelstoke, Monkswell, Hobhouse, Lingin, Ashbourne, St. Oswald, Wantage, Escher, and Deramore. The barony of Grey de Ruthin has been called out of abeyance in favour of Lady Bertha Clifton, one of the coheirresses; the Earl of Breadalbarc has received a marquisate; Lord Fife an earldom of the United Kingdom; and Lord Wolseley a viscountcy; but the most important Peerage incident of all is the restitution of the famous old earldom of Mar, so old that "its origin is lost in its antiquity."

Amongst the newly created Lords are men of high political and legal distinction, and some of ancient lineage. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Halsbury—the able jurist, Sir Hardinge Gifford—takes his title from the manor of Halsbury, in Devon, where his ancestors dwelt in Plantagenet times; and Lord Iddesleigh his from a parish, also in Devonshire, wherein the Northcotes can be traced ages and ages ago. Rothschild and Baring, pre-eminent in the banking and mercantile world, appear fitly on the roll of the hereditary ranks of this great commercial country. There is a celebrated precedent. So far back as the reign of Edward III., Michael De la Pole, "the King's beloved merchant," was raised to the Peerage of England. Two dignities have become extinct—Strathnairn and Ranelagh; and several well-known noblemen have passed away: two Dukes, both Knights of the Garter, Somerset and Abercorn; one Marquis, Cholmondeley; eleven Earls, including Shaftesbury and Cairns; four Viscounts, and six Barons.

"At the close of 1885," sums up Sir Bernard, "the Peerage of the Kingdom consisted of 612 members, of whom 511, including the Scotch and Irish representative Lords, are in the Upper House; eleven are minors; seven Peereesses in their own right; and sixty-three Irish and Scotch Peers without seats." The Baronetage has, during the same period, been increased by fourteen new titles—viz., Guinness, Martin, Tennant, Millais, Jardine, Bell, Brocklebank, Harland, Fowler, Thornhill, Vernon, Errington, Morris, and Corry.

The Mansion House committee of the Fund for the Defence of Property in Ireland met, on the 18th inst., at the Mansion House, when the balance in hand (about £1200) was directed to be transferred to the Irish Defence Union.

Last Saturday evening the thirty-seventh anniversary dinner of the National Orphan Home took place at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, the Duke of Edinburgh presiding. Subscriptions to the amount of £870 were announced, including a donation of £25 from his Royal Highness. The sum required by the home is about £1200.

Mr. Gladstone has forwarded a Latin inscription for the Market Cross at Edinburgh. The translation is—"This ancient monument, the Cross of Edinburgh, which of old was set apart for public ceremonies, but, having been utterly destroyed by misguided hands in 1756, was avenged and lamented in song nobly and manfully by Walter Scott, has now, by favour of Edinburgh magistrates, been restored by William Ewart Gladstone, who claims from both parents a purely Scottish descent."

OBITUARY.

THE EARL OF GUILFORD.

The Right Hon. Dudley Francis, seventh Earl of Guilford, and Baron Guilford of Guilford, in the county of Surrey, died on the 19th inst., from the effects of a fall in the hunting-field. He was born July 14, 1851, the eldest son of Dudley, Lord North, by Charlotte Maria, his wife, third daughter of the Hon. and Rev. William Eden, and succeeded his grandfather, Francis, sixth Earl of Guilford, Jan. 29, 1861. He was formerly Lieutenant in the Royal Horse Guards, and Hon. Colonel East Kent Yeomanry Cavalry. He married, May 4, 1874, Georgiana, youngest daughter of Sir George Chetwynd, Bart., and leaves one son, Frederick George, now eighth Earl of Guilford, born Nov. 19, 1876, and Muriel Emily, born April 16, 1879.

SIR H. CRAWFURD-POLLOK, BART.

Sir Hew Crawford-Pollok, fifth Baronet of Kilbirnie, died on the 14th inst., aged forty-two. He was only son of Sir Hew Crawford-Pollok, Bart., and combined in his person the representation of the families of Pollok of Pollok Crawford of Kilbirnie, and Crawford of Jordanhill. He was formerly Captain in the Renfrewshire Militia; and served in the American War, in the 5th United States Federal Cavalry. He married, June 8, 1871, Miss Annie Elizabeth Green, but had no issue.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR ARTHUR PHAYRE.

Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Purves Phayre, G.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., C.B., died at Bray, county Wicklow, on the 15th inst. He was born in 1812, the eldest son of Mr. Richard Phayre, of Shrewsbury. He was long and most honourably associated with India, served in the 7th Bengal Native Infantry, and as Lieutenant-Colonel Bengal Staff Corps, and attained the rank of Lieutenant-General in 1877. He held for many years, with high distinction, the important office of Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, and concluded many important treaties with the King. Subsequently, from 1874 to 1878, he was Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Mauritius. The decoration of C.B., was given to him in 1854, the Commandership of the Star of India in 1867, and the Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George in 1878. Sir Arthur's younger brother, Sir Robert Phayre, K.C.B., is also a distinguished Indian General.

VISCOUNTESS NETTERVILLE.

The Right Hon. Eliza, Viscountess Netterville, died on the 18th inst. Her Ladyship was the third daughter of Mr. Joseph Kirwan, of Hillsbrook, in the county of Galway, and was married, April 7, 1834, to James, seventh Viscount Netterville, by whom (who died Feb. 13, 1854) she leaves two daughters, coheirresses of the ancient and distinguished Anglo-Norman family of Netterville of Dowth, which held for centuries a foremost rank in the nobility of Ireland. The elder daughter, the Hon. Eliza Cahill, is the widow of Mr. Michael Cahill, of Ballyconra, in the county of Kilkenny; and the younger, the Hon. Mary Netterville, is wife of Mr. Joshua James MacEvoy, J.P., who has taken, by Royal license, the surname and arms of Netterville.

THE RIGHT HON. H. J. BAILLIE.

The Right Honourable Henry James Baillie, of Redcastle and Tarradale, in the county of Ross, J.P. and D.L., died at Cannes, on the 16th inst., in his eighty-third year. He was educated at Eton, and early entered the House of Commons, representing, as a Conservative, Inverness-shire from 1840 to 1868. During Lord Derby's Administration in 1852 he was one of the joint secretaries of the Board of Control, and from 1858 to 1859 held office as Under-Secretary for India. In 1866, he was sworn of the Privy Council. He married, first, Dec. 29, 1840, the Hon. Philippa Eliza Sydney Smythe, elder daughter of Percy, eighth Viscount Strangford; and, secondly, 1857, Clarissa, daughter of Mr. George Rush, of Elsenham Hall, Essex. By his first wife (who died 1854) he had three sons, who all died sine prole, and two daughters.

THE HON. W. L. HOLMES-A'COURT.

The Hon. William Leonard Holmes-A'Court, J.P. and D.L., died at Clifton, on the 16th inst. He was born Jan. 19, 1835, the eldest son of the present Lord Heytesbury, by Elizabeth, his wife, eldest daughter and heiress of Sir Leonard Thomas Worsley Holmes, Baronet, of Westover, Isle of Wight; and was grandson of William, first Lord Heytesbury, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, 1844 to 1846. Mr. Holmes-A'Court married, Sept. 24, 1861, his cousin, Isabella Sophia, eldest daughter of the Rev. Richard A'Court Peadarn, Vicar of Cheddar, and leaves, with other issue, a son, William Frederick, heir apparent of the Barony of Heytesbury, born June, 1862.

MR. W. LUTLEY SCLATER.

Mr. William Lutley Sclater, M.A., of Hoddington House, Hants, J.P., died on the 15th inst., at his seat near Odiham, aged ninety-seven. He was an active and prominent county gentleman in Hampshire, and rode with the hounds until about four years ago. He married, July 26, 1821, Anne Maria, youngest daughter of Mr. William Bowyer, of the King's Remembrancer's Office, and had several children. The eldest son is the well-known politician, the Right Hon. George Sclater-Booth, M.P., late President of the Local Government Board.

We have also to record the deaths of—

Mr. John Henson Webb, late of The Hough, Stafford, and Moseley Lodge, Scarborough, J.P. and D.L. for Staffordshire, on the 12th inst., in his seventy-ninth year.

The Very Rev. William Christie, Dean of Moray and Banff, in his sixty-ninth year. He edited a collection of Scottish airs and ballads.

Mr. Stephen Barker Guion, founder and manager of the Guion Line of New York mail-steamer, on the 19th inst., at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Marsh, Devonshire-road, Liverpool. He was sixty-six years of age, and unmarried.

Alexander Young and George Evans were sentenced, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday week, to five years' penal servitude, for a burglary in Bow-churchyard and stealing a large quantity of pills. Would it have been too cruel if they had been ordered also to swallow some of the pills regularly during their enforced confinement?

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For the TEETH
and BREATH.

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For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Phthisis, Sore Throat, and other Affections of the Throat and Chest.

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Bronchial
Troches

Put up in the form of a lozenge, it is the most convenient, pleasant, safe, and sure remedy for clearing and strengthening the voice in the world. Children will find them beneficial in cases of whooping-cough. No family should be without them.

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The freedom from all deleterious ingredients renders Brown's Bronchial Troches a safe remedy for the most delicate female or the youngest child, and has caused them to be held in the highest esteem by clergymen, singers, and public speakers generally.

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Public speakers and singers will find them beneficial in clearing the voice before speaking or singing, and relieving the throat after any unusual exertion of the vocal organs, having a peculiar adaptation to affections which disturb the organs of speech.

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Have been before the public for over thirty years. Each year finds the Troches in some new distant localities in various parts of the world. The genuine have the words "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" on the Government stamp around each Box.

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Are a most valuable article when coughs, colds, bronchitis, influenza, hoarseness, and sore throats are prevalent. The Troches give sure and almost immediate relief. They may be had of any Medicine Dealer, at 1s. 1½d. per Box.

Mrs. Delinslow's
Soothing
Syrup

Should always be used when children are cutting teeth; it relieves the little sufferer at once, it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button."

Mrs. Delinslow's
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Syrup

Is perfectly harmless, and very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhoea, whether arising from teething or other causes.

Mrs. Delinslow's
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Syrup

Is the best and surest remedy in the world for all diseases of children, such as teething, wind-colic, &c. It corrects the acidity of the stomach, regulates the bowels, and gives rest, health, and comfort to mother and child. Perfectly safe in all cases.

Mrs. Delinslow's
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Syrup

This valuable preparation is the prescription of one of the MOST EXPERIENCED and SKILFUL NURSES in America, and has been used, with never failing success, in THOUSANDS OF CASES.

Mrs. Delinslow's
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Syrup

Being perfectly safe, should always be used when the child is suffering from acidity of the stomach, wind-colic, dysentery, diarrhoea, &c., as it regulates the bowels, and so gives relief.

Mrs. Delinslow's
Soothing
Syrup

Should be in every household, and every mother should be prepared to administer some to her child on the first symptoms of any of the above ailments.

Mrs. Delinslow's
Soothing
Syrup

Full directions for using will accompany each Bottle. None genuine unless the facsimile of CURTIS and PERKINS, New York and London, is on the outside wrapper.

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Will positively restore, in every case, grey or white hair to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promotes the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed.

The
Mexican
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Renewer

This preparation has never been known to fail in restoring the hair to its natural colour and gloss in from eight to twelve days. It promotes growth, and prevents the hair falling out, eradicating dandruff, and leaving the scalp in a clean, healthy condition.

The
Mexican
Hair
Renewer

Is not a dye, nor does it contain any colouring matter or offensive substance whatever. Hence it does not soil the hands, the scalp, or even white linen, but produces the colour within the substance of the hair.

The
Mexican
Hair
Renewer

Imparts peculiar vitality to the roots of the hair, restoring it to its youthful freshness and vigour. Daily applications of this preparation for a week or two will surely restore faded, grey, or white hair to its natural colour and richness.

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Messrs. Wm. Hayes and Co., Chemists, 12, Grafton-street, Dublin, write:—"We are recommending THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER to all our customers as the best of the kind, as we have been told by several of our friends who tried it that it has a wonderful effect in restoring and strengthening their hair."

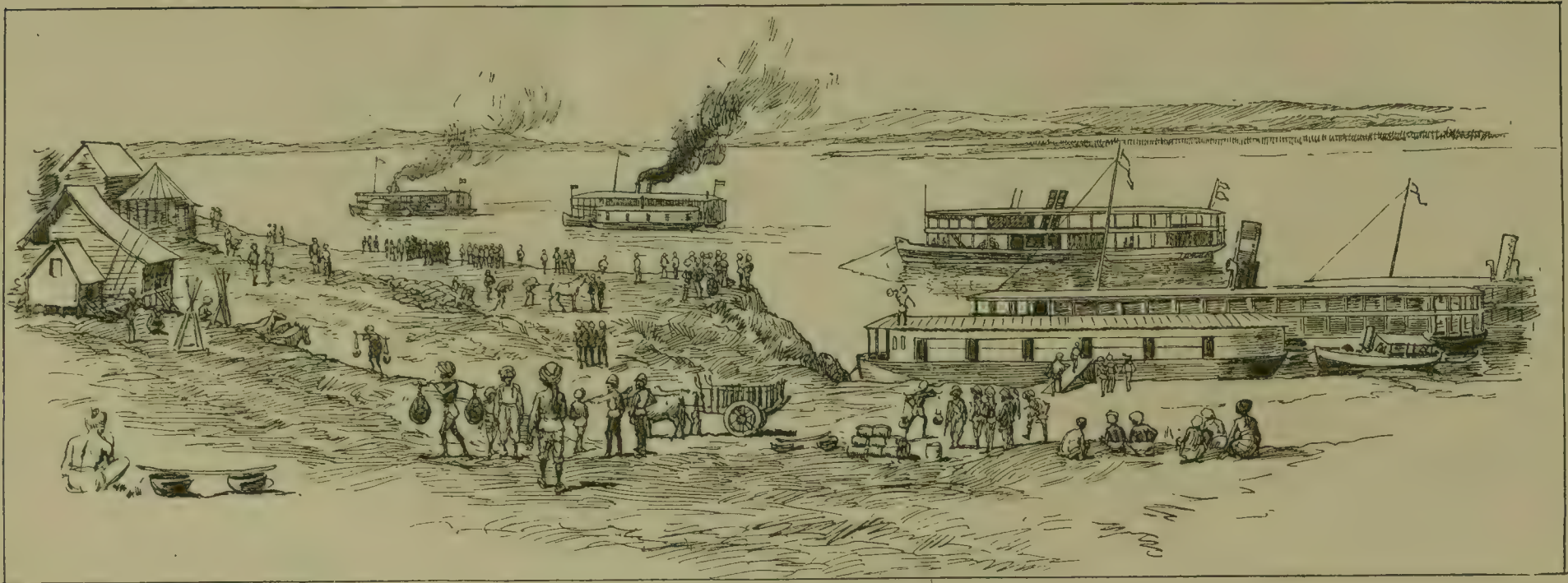
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May be had of any respectable Chemist, Perfumer, or Dealer in Toilet Articles in the Kingdom, at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. In case the dealer has not "The Mexican Hair Renewer" in stock, and will not procure it for you it will be sent direct by rail, carriage paid on receipt of 4s. in stamps, to any part of England. Sold Wholesale by the ANGLO-AMERICAN DRUG COMPANY, Limited, 23, Farringdon-road, London.

THE BURMESE EXPEDITION: SKETCHES ON THE IRRAWADDY RIVER.



THYETMYO: THE IRRAWADDY FLOTILLA COMPANY'S STEAMERS, WITH FLATS ALONGSIDE CONVEYING TROOPS.



BURMESE VILLAGE ON THE BANKS OF THE IRRAWADDY.



VIEW LOOKING UP THE RIVER, FROM THE FRONTIER ABOVE THYETMYO.

A PARLIAMENTARY MAP OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

COLOURED TO SHOW THE PARTY REPRESENTATION, 1885-86.



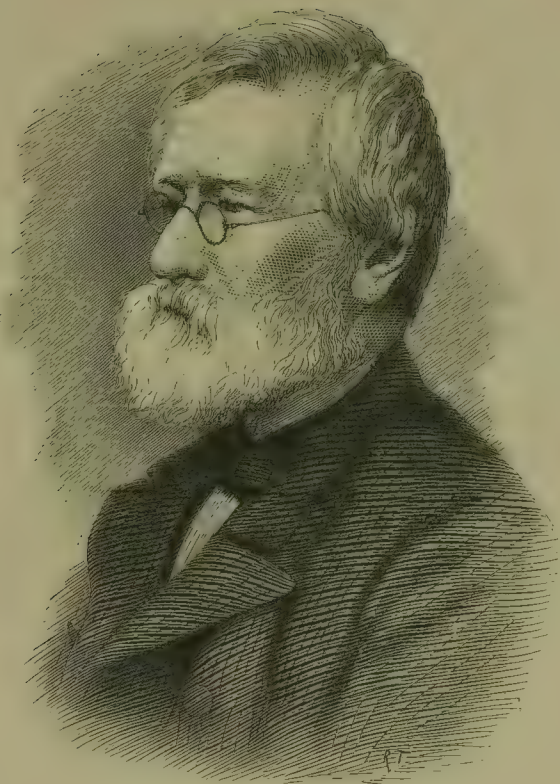


LEIGHTON, BRON.

PRISCILLA.

"Modest, Simple, and Sweet."—Longfellow.

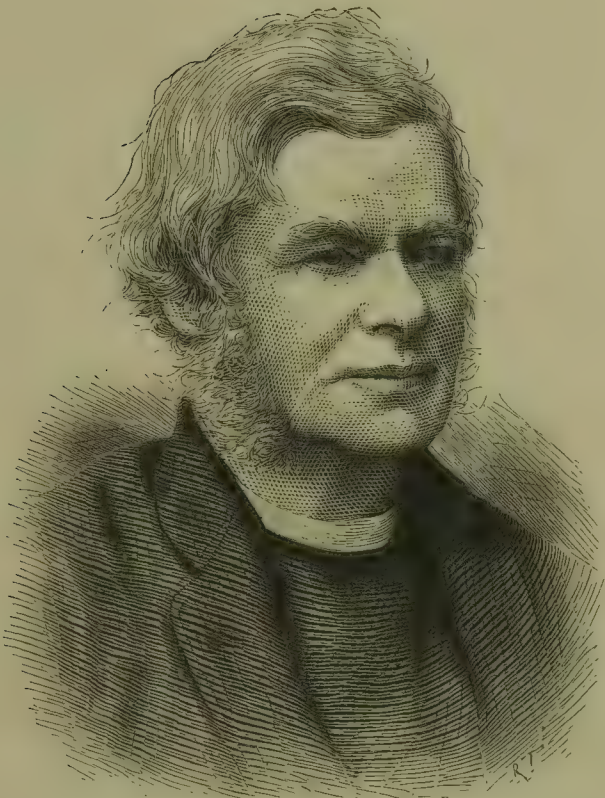
From a Drawing by Florence Gravie.



THE LATE MR. JAMES FAHEY,
ARTIST.



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THE NEW PROFESSOR OF POETRY AT OXFORD.



THE LATE VERY REV. J. S. HOWSON, D.D.,
DEAN OF CHESTER.



THE VEN. HENRY JOHNSON, M.A.,
ARCHDEACON OF THE UPPER NIGER.

THE NEW OXFORD PROFESSOR OF POETRY.

Mr. Francis Turner Palgrave, M.A., who has been elected by the University of Oxford to the Professorship of Poetry, is son of that clever and learned antiquary and English historian, the late Sir Francis Palgrave. He was born in 1824, was educated at the Charterhouse and at Balliol College, and was elected a Fellow of Exeter College. He was five years Vice-Principal of the Training College for Schoolmasters at Kneller Hall; was for some time private secretary to Lord Granville, and was appointed to an office in the Education Department of the Privy Council. He is author of a volume of "Idylls and Songs," and other "Lyrical Poems"; of a prose work entitled "Five Days' Entertainment at Wentworth Grange"; and of many essays, prefaces, and critical reviews on subjects of literature and the fine arts; he is also editor of "The Golden Treasury of English Songs," of a collection of "Hymns," and of a selection of Herrick's poems, and of the poems of Sir Walter Scott. The degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by the University of Edinburgh. His brother, Mr. W. G. Palgrave, is an Oriental scholar and traveller, author of books on Arabia and Turkey, and is in the Consular service.

THE LATE MR. JAMES FAHEY.

This veteran artist, who died on the 11th inst., in his eighty-second year, was, during forty years, secretary to the "New Society of Painters in Water Colours," now the "Royal Institute," of which he was one of the original founders, and which has been greatly indebted to his zealous and energetic services, long performed without any remuneration. Mr. Fahey's own works, mostly landscape compositions, with figures and groups introduced in them, were of great merit, and of a pleasing character.

THE LATE DEAN HOWSON.

The Very Rev. John Saul Howson, D.D., Dean of Chester, whose death was recorded last week, was born in 1816, was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, taking double first-class honours, and was ordained in 1845. He was senior classical master, and from 1849 to 1865 was Principal, of the Liverpool College. Together with the late Rev. W. J. Conybeare, he wrote that excellent book "The Life and Epistles of St. Paul," and he also contributed to Dr. W. Smith's "Dictionary of the Bible," and to the *Quarterly Review* and other periodicals. In 1866 he became Vicar of Wisbech, and Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Ely, but in the following year was appointed Dean of Chester.

THE ARCHDEACON OF THE NIGER.

A clergyman of the Church of England, but of pure negro race, the Ven. Henry Johnson, M.A., is appointed Archdeacon of the Upper Niger. He was born in 1840, at Sierra Leone, the son of native African parents liberated from slavery, who were Christians; he was educated at the Freetown Grammar School there, and at the Church Missionary College at Islington. He is a good English, classical, Hebrew, and Arabic scholar, and is acquainted with French and German; and he has translated the New Testament into several of the languages of West Africa. He has been many years employed as a missionary clergyman, at Sherbro, at Lagos, and latterly at Lokoja, at the confluence of the Niger with the Binné, under Bishop Samuel Crowther. The degree of M.A. has been conferred upon Mr. Johnson by the University of Cambridge.

The Judges rose for the Christmas Vacation on Monday, and their Lordships will not sit again until Monday, Jan. 11.

THE BURMESE EXPEDITION.

The British civil and military authorities in Upper Burmah, since the removal of King Theebaw and the occupation of the capital city, Mandalay, where Mr. T. Bernard, the Commissioner of British Burmah, arrived from Rangoon on the 15th inst., are vigorously exerting themselves to preserve order throughout the country. We regret to learn that on the 21st ult., before the British expedition came up, outrages were committed by the Burmese officials at Mingin, where eight Englishmen, in the services of the Bombay and Burmah Company, were seized and thrown into prison; and it is said that three were killed in a boat on the river. In the British province of Pegu riots have taken place among the Burmese population, led by Phongyee, who marches through the country at the head of an armed band of insurgents; but troops are sent in pursuit of him. King Theebaw, with his Queen Soopyalat and her ladies, has been conveyed to Madras, where he will be detained for some time. In the meantime, public opinion in England is being directed to the material advantages which the possession of Upper Burmah and the Shan country may afford, by the extended cultivation of profitable crops, and by the opening of an inland traffic with the Indo-Chinese nations and the western provinces of China. Mr. Holt Hallett, who has travelled in those countries, as well as Mr. Archibald Colquhoun, lectured on the subject before the Society of Arts last week; he expressed his opinion that Government could not adopt a wiser or more beneficial domestic policy in the case of British Burmah than to devote to the province special funds to be employed in opening out the country, in the extension of its railways, the improvement of its new water communications, and the construction of carefully-selected roads to feed the railways and the river channels. The conquest of Upper Burmah, accomplished within a few days, would place the

Shan tribes under British protection; it had been shown that railway connection between India and China was practicable at no excessive outlay, that the country was well worth opening out, and that the connection of Siam and China with Burmah and India would open out to British commerce the rich but land-locked interior of Western China, as well as develop and civilise the whole of Central Indo-China.

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CAROL.

Here, as on the holy morn
When the Blessed Babe was born,
Angel voices quiring sing
Glory to the new-come King,
Angels small of mortal birth
Making here a Heaven of Earth;
Well from such may song arise
Welcome to the listening skies;
Well may such their voices lift
For the Father's priceless gift:
Souls all pure and undefiled—
Such should hymn the Holy Child.

Mother, how your heart must thrill
As their songs the silence fill;
Innocence without alloy
Carolling their infant joy!
How each little loving thing
To your very soul must sing;
Making every tone all dear
That your heart is drinking here.
Happy song, by you is given
Bliss alike to Earth and Heaven:
Souls all pure and undefiled—
Such should hymn the Holy Child.

Sights and sounds of dearest things
Christmas ever to us brings,
Love that all of ill forgets,
Gladness that no sorrow frets,
Peace that earthly cares knows not,
All but ease awhile forgot;
But no sweeter sight or sound
In the happy time is found
Than these innocents so dear
With their mother pictured here—
Souls with sin all undefiled
Carolling the Holy Child.

W. C. BENNETT.

*The distinction of C.M.G. has been conferred upon Colonel Stanley Clarke, Equerry to the Prince of Wales.

The second annual ball for the benefit of the Italian Hospital in London will be held at the Holborn Townhall, Gray's Inn-road, on Thursday, Jan. 7, 1886.

The Beaumont Trustees, whose great scheme for the People's Palace in the East-End of London is before the public, have received a gift of £500 from the Grocers' Company.

At the Royal Geographical Society's meeting on Monday evening—the Marquis of Lorne in the chair—Major Greely, the head of the recent United States Exploring Expedition, gave an account of his Polar explorations to a large and brilliant audience, among whom were Princess Louise and many other distinguished visitors. After a brief discussion, a vote of thanks to Major Greely was unanimously passed.

BOOKS OF SPORT.

The selection by the Duke of Beaufort of the subject of fishing as the successor of hunting in the Badminton Library of Sports and Pastimes may be accepted as no unimportant testimony to the position now occupied by the sport of angling and two orthodox volumes—*Fishing*, by H. Cholmondeley-Pennell, late her Majesty's Inspector of Sea Fisheries, &c., with contributions from other authors (Longmans, Green, and Co.)—are filled with it. For many a year to come, this will doubtless remain a standard work upon angling and the naturally affiliated pursuits of fish culture. The division of the volumes, as may be supposed, is suggested by the higher and lower game of the British rivers and lakes; first, the migratory salmonidæ, with brown trout and grayling, and next, the coarser summer spawners; the one representing the sport of the privileged few, the other, that of the many. The editor, himself a prolific angling author, has supplemented his own valuable contributions by chapters from Major Traherne, who, two years ago, at the *Fishing Gazette* tournament, made the longest salmon cast on record; Mr. H. R. Francis, who confesses to a first acquaintance with Thames trout forty years ago; Mr. H. S. Hall, whose name is inseparably associated with the fashionable eyed hooks; Mr. T. Andrews, the most successful pisciculturist in the South of England; and by Mr. Senior, "Redspinner," Mr. G. C. Davies, Mr. R. B. Marston, and the Marquis of Exeter, who furnish additional essays to round off Mr. Cholmondeley-Pennell's instructions as to pike and other coarse fish. Both books are freely and usefully illustrated, and Mr. C. Whymper's artistic frontispieces, do not, as unfortunately is so often done, outrage the technical proprieties of the craft. To dig into this mound of information with the view of sifting out anything like an adequate amount of samples is an impossible task where space is a consideration. Indeed, the ordinary reader will probably be astonished at the endless devices there are for catching a fish, and will give up in despair the attempt at choice between such a multiplicity of methods. Life would seem too short for the effort, and the modest purse, with which the majority of us have to be content, all too light for testing the contrivances described. That hundreds of them are mere whims goes without saying. The old-fashioned fly-fishers, who swear by a dozen patterns at most, and who accept Charles Kingsley's doctrines upon the much-vexed question of artificial flies, have not a little reason on their side, though it is not to be disputed that, with a vast increase in the numbers of anglers, thanks to the growing literature and the perfected means of locomotion, the ordinary fish of our streams have become exasperatingly shy. The great historical controversy between the Big-endians and Little-endians was nothing, apparently, by comparison with the momentous issue between dry fly and sunk fly, live bait and dead bait, Nottingham style and Thames style. The earnest spirit of inquiry abroad amongst anglers, if not death to the fish, must, at any rate, be life to the tackle-makers. Sea-fishing, as a sport, is not included in these volumes, and we look in vain for that constantly missing quantity, a chapter dealing exhaustively with the natural history of the insects imitated by fly-fishers.

In one of the suburban police-courts a few days ago, a man stated that he had purchased a pony for two-and-twenty shillings. It is true that the wretched, worn-out screw had to be killed at the end of a very brief possession; but, even so, the price was extraordinary for this country, where horseflesh is as dear as it is anywhere. There are many

reasons why English horses should maintain a high value, but we need not now review them. One of the evidences of the fact may be found in the number of books written about the horse. In the making of these works, there would truly seem to be no end. Amongst those which have appeared this year is one by an American author, illustrated by instantaneous photographs of the horse in every variety of action. A well-known English naturalist has published an interesting volume upon the mutual dependencies and duties of horse and man. Some time, however, has elapsed since a really practical work that ranges over the entire subject has been produced. Such a handbook for every grade of horse-keeper is *Our Horses: or, the Best Muscles Controlled by the Best Brains*, by Alfred Saunders (Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington). The author incidentally provides the reader with his qualifications for dealing with the matter. Nearly twenty years ago, he purchased five unbroken fillies and a double-shafted dray, set out upon an Australian journey of 1200 miles, broke his team in on the way, and arrived at the end of his three months' travel with five remarkably good cart-mares, which he was able to sell at £40 each—a great price to realise in a country where common hacks may be picked up in the auction-yard at the rate of a pound per leg. An experience of this kind is study in the very best school, and the book in consequence carries a weight and is characterised by an interest often wanting in the arm-chair essays of men who only know the horse as the necessary item of a rich man's equipment. Amidst much that is silly, because artificial, and prompted by nothing more noble than the caprices of fashion, it must be confessed that in England the education of the horse is carried to an advanced pitch of excellence, especially with regard to the racehorse, the hunter, and the trooper's charger. Mr. Saunders, nevertheless, thinks that the racehorse is rarely, if ever, taught to start well, that the hunting-field witnesses a considerable amount of cruelty, and that the "Government stroke" in horse-breaking is as much behind the time as in most other things. If the reader requires encouragement in the use of bearing-reins, in disfiguring his horse by the senseless imposition of the hobtail, or in making high park action the be-all of training, he had better seek some other author. What may be found in this book are the sensible observations of a man who knows a horse and loves it, as any man must who has seen it both wild and tame, and been indebted to it for companionship, aid, and even deliverance from peril in different parts of the globe. The numbering of the paragraphs, as if they were verses, at first looks somewhat ungainly, but it undoubtedly adds to the value of the treatise as a book of ready reference.

POSTAGE FOR FOREIGN PARTS THIS WEEK.

DECEMBER 26, 1885.

The publication of the Thin Paper Edition of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS being for the present week suspended, subscribers will please to notice that copies of this Number forwarded abroad must be prepaid according to the following rates:—*Twopence* to Africa (West Coast of), Alexandria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, China (via United States), Constantinople, Denmark, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Holland, Italy, Jamaica, Mauritius, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United States of America; and *Threepence* to China (via Brindisi), India, and the Transvaal.

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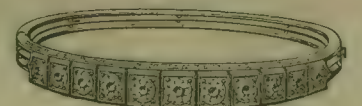
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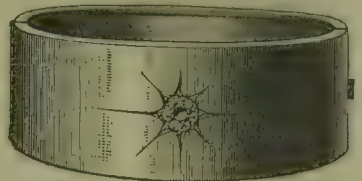
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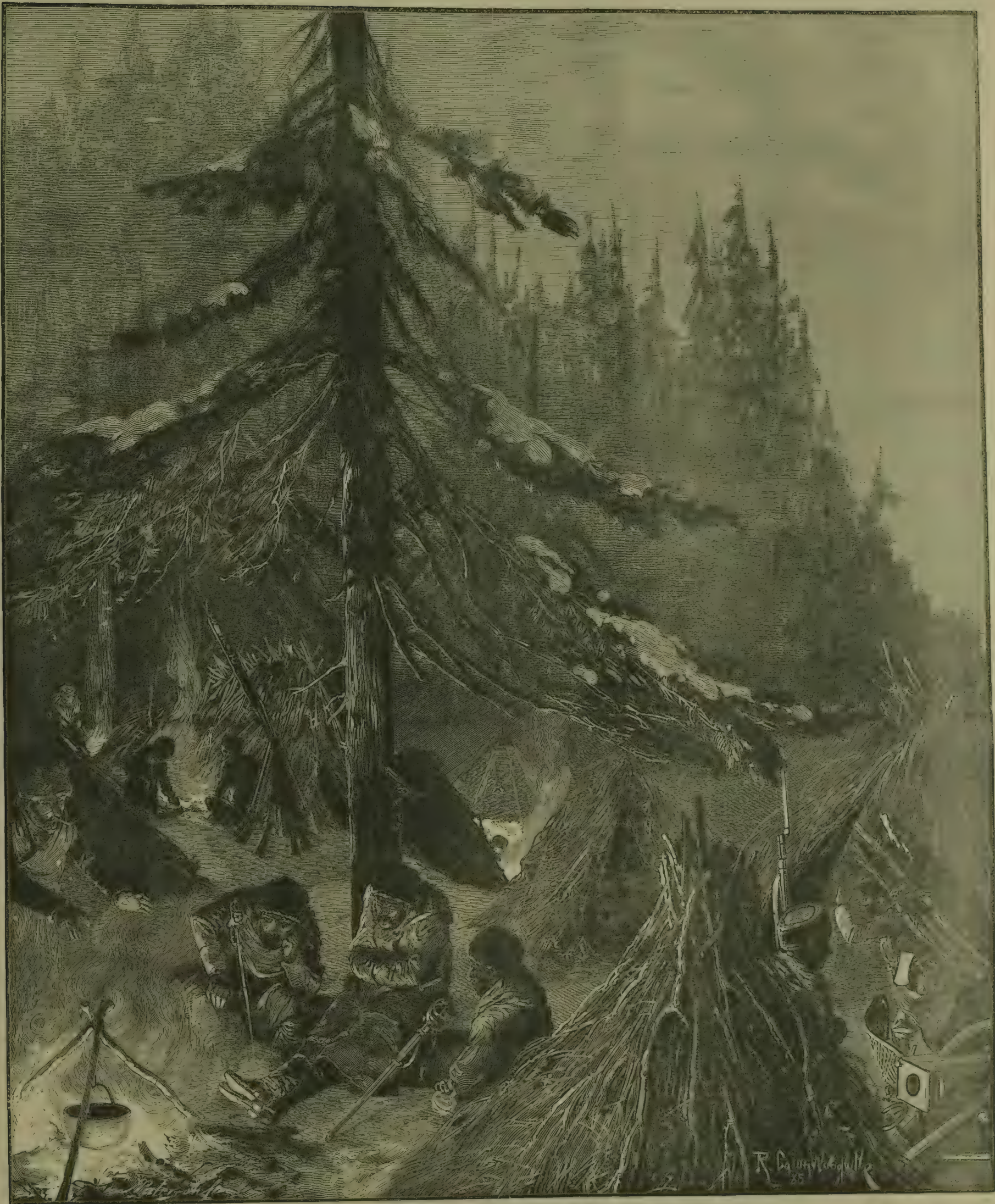
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AGNESA'S SECRET.

A VENETIAN STORY OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.
BY JAMES DAVIS.

"What fortune, my Agnesa?" asked Domenico di Vesci, as his daughter tripped into their poor apartment in the worst quarter of the great city of Venice. "Are you in luck; is there to be any breakfast to-day?"

"Alas! my father, very little, I fear. Every one is so busy in the city that they seem to have no time to stop and look at my flowers, and this is all I could get. Never mind," she continued cheerily, untying a cloth and disclosing a small loaf and a tiny sausage, "I will cook this for you now; and to-morrow, perhaps, we shall have a fine feast. It is the day the Spanish Señor always buys a nosegay for the Señorita." And the girl removed from her shoulders the basket in which she carried the blossoms which constituted her whole stock in trade, and out of which, renewed morning by morning, she and her father managed to subsist. Bussing herself with the preparation of their frugal

meal, Agnesa did not observe the chuckle of contentment with which the old man from moment to moment indulged himself; but she felt surprised at his good-humour; for when on previous occasions she had returned empty-handed from her work, she was not unaccustomed to be greeted with abuse, imprecations, even blows; nor was she long in discovering the cause of his good temper.

"Eat it all yourself, my child," he said, when the process of frying was completed. "I have already fared sumptuously; my benefactor has been here and brought me meat and cheese, and, what is better than both, a bottle of good sound wine. See, here is some left."

But Agnesa hung down her head, the news brought her no pleasure, for she knew too well the object which prompted the liberality of the so-called benefactor, and she would rather have starved than have tasted a morsel of his providing. He had done her no injury, and given her no cause for dislike; on the contrary, there he was, Jacopo Cammillo, a man well favoured and well-to-do, anxious to take as his wife the penniless flower-girl. In spite of her father's strongly

expressed wishes, in spite of Jacopo's vehement protestations of devotion, she had steadfastly repelled him, and for the best of all reasons—that her love was already another's. This, however, was at present a secret; but was not to be long kept, for she had hardly finished eating when Jacopo came in, and after talking for some time to the old man, once more renewed his offer. "I will be a kind, devoted husband to you, Agnesa," he pleaded, "why spurn me! Your father shall want for nothing, and even if you accept me for his sake I will make you love me for my own. Say, shall it be so?"

"Never; it cannot be. And if you care for me as you say, spare me the pain of refusing you again."

"You love another?"

"You have no right to ask me," she replied, proudly.

"But I have," interrupted Domenico, "and I demand to know his name. Tell me."

It was some time before Agnesa answered. She felt that her duty towards a parent who forgot all his duties towards her might lead to a separation between her and the lad of her choice; but she had implicit faith in him, and had no fear of

her own heart. Besides, sooner or later her father must be told, and as for Jacopo, there was no reason to disguise from him the fact that she had been wooed and won by Enrico Manfreme, a sculptor's apprentice. So she defiantly explained the position, and sullenly bade Jacopo farewell. But his designs were not to be frustrated without a struggle. That Agnesa loathed him he knew; but the knowledge made him more than ever anxious to possess her, and yet he could not see how he was to accomplish his design. He was rich, and in Venice, where scoundrels prepared to commit any degree of crime can be hired for a few lire, powerful; but all the power and riches in the world cannot divert the love of a determined woman. There was her father, who could be bought; a few bottles of wine would purchase him body and soul, but he had already been enlisted, and discomfiture was the result. However, he was the last chance, and Jacopo departed, angrily calling Domenico to follow him.

Left to herself, Agnesa di Vesci turned her attention to matters other than Signior Cammillo's devotion. From under her bed, which stood in a corner of the shabby room, she drew a box; and opening it, disclosed the implements of a painter's craft. Humming snatches of various Italian songs, she rubbed off colours and mixed fresh ones; she examined brushes and cleaned a palette; till suddenly, hearing a footstep on the stairs, she desisted, and hid the things away; and in another moment, was locked in the arms of her own true love.

"Agnesa, carissima mia," he sighed, as, with her head resting on his arm, he looked into her honest eyes, "I have such great hopes for the future that I fear to tell you of my luck."

"Love lives on hope, Enrico; and fear does not kill it. Confide in me, darling."

"I will! But first, my own, tell me if before to-morrow's sun is set I shall be rich and prosperous, will you go with me to the holy father, who shall make us one?" and taking his answer from her eyes and lips, he proceeded, "You know my model of Les Graces which I have worked on so earnestly for months? Il Duca de Monlatta has seen it, and wishes to buy it. I am to wait on him this evening, and then, if fortune favours me, you are mine. That is my secret."

"You will succeed, mio caro. I know it; but I, too, have a secret, even from you. Are you inquisitive?"

"Interested, but not inquisitive. Faith embraces all human sentiment but love, and love embraces faith. I love you, so keep your secret until to-morrow; and now, God bless you, expect me back soon."

Enrico had hardly gone, when Agnesa returned to what had occupied her before he had come in; not only was she busy with her paints and brushes, but also with her toilette. The hour was late, and she had yet work to do away from home. Not selling flowers, which was the only occupation of which her friends were aware, but a labour of love and difficulty, and of only probable gain. Yes; she was slaving for a future, and when the time came that she was expert in her adopted craft, she would be able to assist Enrico in his work, while from her own earnings she hoped to provide for her father. Agnesa was at heart an artist, and had she been of the sterner sex she would, doubtless, have made her mark, for her taste was natural, her talent untaught. Alas! the stern laws of Venice precluded women from attending at the art schools; the highest rewards granted to painters were not within the grasp of her sex. To men alone were intrusted the honours of decorating the cathedrals and public buildings; of designing holy pictures that should live through centuries, and crown the names of their creators with everlasting laurels. Over and over again, from the time she was a child, had she felt the disadvantages she laboured under. Often would she leave her basket at the church portals, and wander about the buildings, under the scaffoldings on which the veteran Titian or the boyish Tintoretto stood at their work, embellishing with their genius the ceilings or altars of the cathedrals, wistfully watching their progress, and lamenting that her sex precluded her from seeking the career she longed for.

This had gone on for years, and it was during her rambles after art and among artists that she had first met Enrico. They had so much in common: their ages were alike, both were poor, their tastes were the same, and their ambitions kindred. No wonder they fell in love with each other; and a true pure love it was, of honest boy for honest maiden; and therefore they had one object in life—to achieve a position which would justify them in marrying. It was no large dowry that Agnesa hoped to bring her bridegroom, and no big fortune that Enrico expected to start with as a husband. Enough for the fees, to pay the usual charitable tribute, and to buy a few articles of necessary furniture, was all that they wanted; and while the lad had been slaving earnestly as a sculptor—working, after his master's business was disposed of, until the small hours of the morning—Agnesa had hit upon a plan by which she hoped to augment her small earnings as a vender of flowers on the quays and bridges of Venice. This then was the reason why she had been so busy with her paints and her brushes, and why at the advent of her lover she had hastily concealed them. For, truth to tell, she was ashamed to take him into her confidence, lest he should disapprove of what was considered by the State, by the professors, and by the Church to be an unwomanly occupation. Before she was married, of course, she would tell him all; and she trembled with excitement, hope, and joy at the thought that if the Duca Monlatta bought "Les Graces," the time for concealment was nearly over. That such a noble patron, such an astute connoisseur would surely buy it, she entertained no doubt.

However, she must not dream away the best hours of the day; she was due at the Arsenal, where, with two other youths and a maestro, she was assisting to paint frescoes on the exterior of the workmen's dwelling-houses; not an exalted position as an artist maybe, but, nevertheless, she hoped the first rung on the ladder to decent wages.

It was strange to see this slim, graceful young girl donning boys' apparel. She took off her dress and kerchief, and tied up her hair in a little tight knot on top of her head, and put on the blouse and belt of a student; she strapped her paint-box on her back in a manly fashion, and walked up and down the room, and stamped her feet as though to complete the transformation from one sex to another. Having satisfied herself that she would pass muster amongst her comrades, she strode gaily out of the door, and down the stairs, in her hurry almost falling into the arms of Jacopo Cammillo, and away she went on to the Quay.

He seemed perplexed when, after knocking at the door and getting no response, he entered and looked around him with a puzzled air. Who was the youth he met on the stairs, he wondered; the face was familiar, and yet and yet—but he had not come here to trouble himself about others. Disappointment is the fuel on which the fire of love burns most brightly, and despite Agnesa's refusal of a few hours ago, he determined to make one more desperate effort to win her, at least to beg for some encouragement, and then, if she still persisted in repelling him after all fair means had been adopted, why, thought Jacopo, "I must take another course, for mine Agnesa shall be if there is a trusty gondolier to be found in Italy."

Pondering on, he listlessly walked round the room. Stopping

to bend down and kiss the pillow on Agnesa's bed, he tenderly took up little worthless trifles, gazed on them, and reverently replaced them. He had not always led a good life, this broad-shouldered handsome fellow; and in his youth old men had looked askance at him, and the officers of the city had suspected him of being concerned in more than one desperate deed connected with a stiletto and a dark night. But he really loved the girl with all the passion of his disposition; he adored her, and the sentiment softened his nature and he fondled her kerchief in his hands, lifted it to his lips, mentally vowing that if God rewarded his wooing he would be a dutiful, devoted, and affectionate husband. But the kerchief—it was the same she had worn round her neck that morning. Why had she discarded it? It was unlike her, so far as he knew, to alter her attire from hour to hour, nor did the extent of her wardrobe permit of many changes—and these paints and that brush—and the lad whom he had seen on stairs—and the face—her face—Great Heavens, could it be?

And as he sat down to think, with his head resting on his hands, he did not notice the darkness which was gradually approaching. His reverie would have lasted perhaps into the night, had he not been disturbed by joyful cries and by the light footsteps of Enrico Manfreme, who rushed unceremoniously into the room exclaiming,

"Agnesa, congratulate me! You are mine for ever. Il Duca has bought it! Your pardon, Signior," he continued, stopping short in his burst of delight; "I sought Agnesa. Where is she?"

"I know not. I am waiting for her. What do you want?"

"To claim her as my wife. You are her father's friend, and shall hear all. Look at this!" and Enrico pulled from under his blouse a handful of gold and shook it jubilantly in his open palms. "I have earned this, and can earn more. Agnesa is mine now; and I have come to tell her father of our happiness, and to take her from him."

"Poor deluded boy! Has she fooled you too?"

"Fooled me! Deluded! How dare you? Agnesa is the sweetest of God's creatures: the truest, purest girl that ever lived. Say to the contrary, and you lie!"

Enrico was mad with passion, and, clutching his poignard, would have struck Jacopo; but the other coolly waved him to keep off, and unwillingly he put up his weapon and sullenly apologised for his outburst of temper, excusing himself because "he loved her so."

"So do I; or so did I until I discovered her perfidy."

"Do not tempt me again, or it may go ill with you. Agnesa perfidious!—you must be mad, Sir; she is true as the steel I will plunge into your houndish carcass if you say one other word against her."

"Like you, I believed in her once," said Jacopo, sadly, as a malignant light lit up his deep-set black eyes. "Have patience, and listen to me; and if my words do not convince you, I will prove by your own eyesight that your angel is unworthy of your love, or my love, or the love of any honest man."

"I defy you to prove your slanderous words. Any test you choose I will submit to; but when your falsehoods have been forced down your cowardly throat, may the Lord have mercy on your soul, for you will be past human help!"

The two stood facing each other; the eager, determined boy, with his hand on the hilt of his stiletto, and the big man, towering above him, and looking steadfastly into his eyes with an expression of contemptuous pity. So they remained for a few seconds, when Jacopo laughed a short, hoarse, nervous laugh, and broke the silence by saying,

"Your challenge is accepted—hear my accusation. Every evening, after sunset, when old di Vesci is either sleeping off the fumes of his daily potations or is roistering in a tavern, and when virtuous maidens should be at rest, a youth—ay, a youth something like yourself, and an artist, too, visits her in this apartment, and remains until—what matters until when?—longer than you or I, or even her drunken father, could approve of. Nay, lad, I tell you this in sorrow, not in envy, and to save you from a fate that might have been my own. Put up your poignard, and see for yourself. There is Agnesa's couch. It is now twilight; let us conceal ourselves in the shadow of the door, and if I have borne false witness—well, you are armed; I am not."

Pale and trembling with suppressed rage, hardly knowing what he did, Enrico followed him. The seconds passed like hours, the minutes like weeks; and, while in his heart ashamed of distrusting his Agnesa, even by a thought, he felt no fear of the result. Agnesa false!—the idea was preposterous. Those sweet lips that had met his only a few hours ago speak lies—those bright brown eyes—villany, impossible! And yet she had told him this morning that she had a secret. No, it could not be. Naturally, he was impatient for the moment when he could throw back the vile accusations into the teeth of their promulgator. Little did the poor lad imagine that her denouncer, having discovered her secret, was seeking to shame her in the sight of one who loved her, that he might have a better prospect of securing her for himself.

Presently a slow and measured step was heard on the stairs; it approached nearer and nearer, and Enrico held his breath in the agony of excitement and expectation. It required all Jacopo's strength to hold him back as the door opened and a weary-looking, youthfully formed boy entered on tip-toe.

"Now are you satisfied," hissed Jacopo in the ear of the half-fainting lover. "He seems to be familiar with the place," continued he, in a taunting tone, as the new comer went towards the bed and, throwing his cap on it, sat down to rest on its edge. This was too much for Enrico; he could bear the trial no longer. If Agnesa was false, and there seemed no doubt of it now, his rival should not survive to enjoy the love which was his by right. Breaking away from his tormentor, and before the other could interfere, he flung himself on the student and plunged his dagger into him.

Oh! the scream that rang through the room, the voice that lingered in his mind! He knew it now too well and too late. The thing he cherished best in the world was destroyed, and by his own vile hand. Had ever man been so mad or lover so unfortunate! And the dastard to whom this misery was due; what compensation would his corrupted life be for the brightest soul in Christendom? Jacopo had not waited to see the full extent of the mischief his scheme had wrought, and did not hear the dulcet tones of the wounded girl as they poured words of forgiveness, encouragement, and hope into the ears of her misguided lover.

"It was my fault, dearest," she murmured; "you only acted as affection demanded. But I shall not die—see," she continued, making an obvious effort to regain her strength; "we are lucky that it is no worse, though my arm may be useless for weeks to come. I was wrong, very wrong; I ought to have told you about the painting."

"Would to God you had!" sobbed the heart-broken boy.

"That was my secret," she sighed, smilingly; "and, as your retribution, you must swear to me by your love for me that you will never lift your steel again against a human being."

"Not Cammillo!"

"Not anyone."

And Love took Death by the right hand, and led him slowly but surely away from the couch of the artist girl.

SOME NOTABLE CHRISTMASSES.

Our Christmas festival, apart from the domestic rejoicings with which it has been observed, has had an eventful history. Indeed, few festivals have entered more prominently into the political and social life of this country, or been connected with so many important occurrences. Thus William the Conqueror was crowned on Christmas Day, 1066—

On Christmas Day, in solemnest sort,
Then was he crowned here,
By Albert, Archbishop of York,
With many a noble peer—

a ceremony which was not allowed to pass off without some disturbance, on account of the turbulence of his Norman followers. In the year 1069, this Monarch spent his Christmas at York, with every mark of rejoicing; but afterwards made this season famous by giving his soldiers orders to lay waste the country between York and Durham, thereby consigning about one hundred thousand persons to death by cold, hunger, fire, and sword. It was in the year 1214, when King John was keeping his Christmas at Worcester, that he was informed of the unpleasant news of the resolution of the Barons to withdraw their allegiance, unless their claims were accepted—a quarrel which ended in the Magna Charta. The coronation of Edward III. took place on Christmas Day, 1326; and Richard II. was murdered on Twelfth Day, 1400, at the close of his Christmas rejoicings. Tradition, too, says that when Henry V. was keeping his Christmas at Eltham, in the year 1413, a plot was formed for killing him and his three brothers. During the siege of Rouen, when this city was in great extremity from hunger, Henry caused hostilities to cease on Christmas Day, and had food distributed to his half-famished foes. Similarly, too, at the siege of Orleans, in the year 1428 "where the solemnities and festivities of Christmas gave a short interval of repose, the English Lords requested of the French commanders that they might have a night of minstrelsy, with trumpets and clarions. They borrowed these musicians and instruments from the French; and Dunois and Suffolk also exchanged gifts." Occasionally, epidemics seem to have frustrated the festivities of Christmas, as was the case in the year 1489, when the measles were prevalent, and "proved fatal to several ladies and gentlewomen. On this account there were no disguisings, and but few plays, the only functionary of importance who performed his duties being the Lord of Misrule, who on this occasion 'made much sport, and did right well his office.'" Then, again, in the ninth year of Henry VIII.'s reign, owing to the prevalence of the sweating sickness from July to December, there were no Christmas rejoicings observed at Court; this sad occurrence having created a good deal of consternation throughout the country on account of the havoc it made in different localities. In the year 1551, there was one of the most magnificent Christmas celebrations on record, for the youthful King Edward VI., writes Mr. Sandys in his "Christmastide" (p. 85), "being much grieved at the condemnation of the Duke of Somerset, it was thought expedient to divert his mind by additional pastimes." George Ferrers, of Lincoln's Inn, was appointed Lord of Misrule.

Towards the close of Edward's reign, a great blow was struck at the festivities of this season, it being enacted that the eves of Christmas Day, the Circumcision, and the Epiphany should be observed as fasts. As might be imagined, this notable change created a widespread feeling of disapproval, and was accordingly repealed early in the reign of Queen Mary. At the same time, however, the Christmas festivities do not seem to have regained their former popularity, which Mr. Sandys attributes to the melancholy temperament and domestic disappointments of the Queen, coupled with the circumstance that they were partially checked by the persecutions on account of religion. An unfortunate contretemps took place at the Court Christmas rejoicings at the commencement of Queen Elizabeth's reign. It appears that an elaborate play was performed before her on Christmas night, but which, unfortunately, contained some offensive matter, and created so much dissatisfaction that orders were given to the players to retire. It is noteworthy that, during Elizabeth's reign, the children of St. Paul's frequently acted at Christmastide, several allusions to which we meet with in the history of this time. Thus, in the year 1560 and succeeding years, we read how Sebastian Westcott, "Master of the children of St. Paul's," was paid the sum of £6 13s. 4d. for their services. It may be mentioned that a survival of this custom exists at the present day in the yearly play of the Westminster boys. During the reign of James I., Christmas was kept up with much splendour, and amongst the many amusing anecdotes illustrative of the excessive conviviality at such times may be quoted the following. During the visit of Christian IV., King of Denmark, in the year 1606, the masque of "Solomon and the Queen of Sheba" was acted. It appears that the Danish King being the Solomon of the evening, the representative "of the Queen of Sheba had imprudently imbibed too much of the nectar she was to have offered to Solomon, and, stumbling, let droppings fall over his dress." "He on his turn," adds Mr. Sandys, "attempting to dance, fell down, and clung to the floor until taken off to bed."

One of the great vicissitudes through which our Christmas festivities have passed was the determined attempt of the Puritans to abolish them.

In the diary of John Evelyn, under the date of Dec. 25, 1652, the diarist makes this entry:—"Christmas Day: no sermon anywhere, no church being permitted to be open, so observed it at home." It would seem that, notwithstanding the efforts of the Puritan leaders to strike out Christmas Day from the Christian calendar, they succeeded but badly, for we find the following debate taking place on Dec. 25, 1656, in Cromwell's Parliament:—Colonel Matthews: "The House is thin: much, I believe, occasioned by the observation of this day. I have a short bill to prevent the superstitions of this day. I desire it to be read." Mr. Robinson: "I could get no rest all night for the preparation of this foolish day's solemnity. This renders us in the eyes of the people to be profane. We are, I doubt, returning to Popery." Major-General Packer said: "You see how the people keep up these superstitions to your face, stricter in many places than they do the Lord's Day. One may pass from the Tower to Westminster, and not see a shop open nor a creature stirring." In the year 1647, it is recorded that the churchwardens of St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, were fined for decorating the church with rosemary and bays, and allowing the ministers to preach on Christmas Day. After the Restoration, the Christmas festivities regained their popularity, and both Evelyn and Pepys refer to the grand merry makings on this anniversary. Poor Robin, too, in the year 1693, has a triumphant welcome for Christmas, beginning thus:—"Now thrice welcome, Christmas," &c., in which he commemorates a state of things very different from that which Nedham describes in his "History of the Rebellion," who, referring to the period above alluded to, thus writes—

Gone are those golden days of yore,
When Christmas was a high day,
Whose sports we now shall see no more:
'Tis turn'd into Good Friday.

At the commencement of the eighteenth century, Christmas began to decline, the state ceremonies in honour of its observance having gradually passed away.

MAGAZINE YEARLY VOLUMES.

The popular monthly magazines, at the close of each year, more especially those which are illustrated with engravings, and those designed for juvenile readers, are presented by their respective publishers in bound volumes of inviting aspect, demanding our notice this week. Their contents have, indeed, already become familiar to a multitude of regular patrons of periodical literature, and it is therefore unnecessary for us to examine the articles in detail; besides which, the tales by favourite authors, and some of the essays, will have appeared, or are destined soon to appear, in separate volumes.

One magazine, perhaps the best of its class, is *Good Words* (Isbister), edited by the Rev. Dr. Donald M'Leod, brother to that genial spirit the late Norman M'Leod, who as an author and Christian pastor was one of the bright ornaments of the Scottish Kirk and nation. Among its contributors are the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Lorne, the Bishop of Rochester, Mr. T. Hughes, Professor Blackie, Sir Lyon Playfair, the Rev. H. R. Haweis, Principal Tulloch, Mrs. Craik, Mrs. Howitt, Mr. James Payn, Dr. John Rae, Mrs. Augusta Webster, Miss M. Betham Edwards, Miss Anna Harriet Drury, Mrs. J. E. Panton, "Shirley," and several other accepted writers of repute. It contains a serial story, "The Luck of the Darrells," by Mr. Payn; biographical and historical memoirs, including Mary Howitt's "Reminiscences"; religious, scientific, and descriptive papers; social and philanthropic discussions; scenes of travel, with a tour in the Highlands by "Shirley," and a tour in Connemara; poetry, short tales and sketches, and miscellaneous notices.

The Leisure Hour (56, Paternoster-row), edited by Dr. James Macaulay, deserves equal praise for the agreeable variety of its contents, with a less proportion of meditative and moralising discourse, and with a great abundance of interesting information. It is, indeed, the most entertaining of popular magazines, and keeps up very closely with the shifting turns of public curiosity, following the events of the day, regarding particular topics of present notoriety. Articles on Norway, Canada, Australia, the Cape, Bechuanaland, Afghanistan, the ocean mail routes, descriptions of the grand old country mansions of England, memoirs of living statesmen and authors, or those lately deceased, have a convenient actuality; while the notes on natural history and on music, the lessons of practical dietetics, of domestic economy, and of useful practice in every-day ways of life, are judiciously set forth in an engaging manner. There is also a fair amount of wholesome fiction, and there are some pieces of verse. *The Fireside Annual* ("Home Words" Office, 7, Paternoster-square), edited by the Rev. Charles Bullock, bestows a larger share of its space upon direct religious instruction, and has many clergymen among its contributors. But a series of papers by the Rev. Dr. Maguire, of Clerkenwell, "Among the Watch-makers," is of secular and social interest to Londoners; and the volume contains several tales. *The Sunday Magazine* (Isbister, Ludgate-hill), edited by the Rev. Benjamin Waugh; *The Sunday at Home* (Religious Tract Society), and *Sunday Reading for the Young* (Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.) are publications which can safely be recommended to families where it is thought right to prescribe reading of a distinctly religious tendency on the appointed day of sacred observance.

Messrs. G. Routledge and Sons present their *Every Boy's Annual* and their *Every Girl's Annual* in good, clear print, with original wood engravings, both the volumes in attractive binding. The one for boys, edited by Mr. Edmund Routledge, contains Mr. G. A. Henty's tale of the Afghan War, Mr. R. M. Ballantyne's tale of the Great North-West, with a "Big Otter" in it; a series of military heroes of European history, by Mr. H. Frith; a Turkish romance by Jules Verne; tales by W. W. Fenn, and by other lively writers of narrative. The volume composed of *Every Girl's Magazine* (which has been transferred to Messrs. Hatchards, publishers), edited by Miss Alicia Amy Leith, is especially to be valued for the series of twelve pretty coloured plates, representing figures in different national costumes, with short descriptive papers on the European countries and peoples. Dr. Hubert Parry's articles on the great composers will be useful to girls learning to judge of music. Mrs. Alice King, Alice Weber, Joyce Darrell, Mrs. Herbert Martin, and other ladies of literary talent contribute stories to this Girl's Annual.

A favourite American publication, made up into the yearly volume, *Harper's Young People*, is here published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. We at once hail with delight the beautiful coloured plates of floral designs, illustrating English wild flowers; the full-page engravings also, of various subjects, are numerous and effective. Six competent story-tellers furnish alternate chapters of continuous narratives, and the short stories, the striking or amusing anecdotes, the passing notes, the odd jokes, conundrums, and enigmas, are beyond easy reckoning. Another popular New York magazine for young folks, conducted by Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, whose clever writings we know, is *St. Nicholas*, belonging to "the Century Company"; and Messrs. F. Warne and Co. are the London publishers. The reissue is in half-yearly parts, and we have received the two bound volumes of the magazine for the twelvemonth from November, 1884. It seems to be entirely the work of American writers and artists whose vivacity of invention, and their dexterity in presenting matters freshly and forcibly, gain the reader's attention.

Books of real utility for instruction may be preferred to books of amusement in the case of some youths to whom gifts are to be presented at this season. Messrs. Ward and Lock, in Vol. I. of the *Industrial Self-Instructor and Technical Journal*, have provided one of the most serviceable aids to a lad who wishes for practical knowledge of industrial arts and processes; of mechanics, carpentry, building, and works of construction, of the materials and operations of the chief manufactures, of chemical works, of horticulture, and of technical drawing and design. It is illustrated with a great number of diagrams and other engravings, and has a frontispiece of colours explanatory of optical science. *Amateur Work* (same publishers), edited by the author of "Every Man His Own Mechanic," is a treatise, by different writers, upon various kinds of skilful applied industry and ingenuity; woodwork, substantial and ornamental; metal-work, machine-making, the turning-lathe, the forge, the air-pump, chemical and electrical apparatus, photography, waterworks, gardening, scene-painting, boat-building, and everything to be done with tools in the hands of a clever young person. Several hundred engravings help him to comprehend the rules.

We can only mention the following cheap volumes of periodicals suitable for children:—*The Family Friend* (S. W. Partridge and Co.); *Our Darlings*; or, *The Children's Treasury of Pictures and Stories*, by Dr. Barnardo (J. F. Shaw and Co.); *Home Words for Heart and Hearth*, by the Rev. C. Bullock, and *The Day of Days Annual*, *The Prize for Girls and Boys* (Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.); *The Infants' Magazine* (Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday); *The Young Standard-Bearer* (Church of England Temperance Society); and *The Balm's Annual*, edited by Alice Corkran (Field and Tuer), which is good.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DABSHILL.—Your solution was probably acknowledged in a subsequent Number. A G D (Cannon-street).—Problem No. 2177 is not "childish," but your attempted solution of it is peculiarly so. After your suggested moves, 1. K to Kt 5th, P to Q 7th; 2. R to K 8th (ch), K to Q 6th; 3. R to K 3rd, how about 3. P takes R? Publication of our solutions is deferred for good reasons. The circle of our readers and solvers extends beyond Cannon-street, and even Clapham Junction.

J H T (Botsford).—We have not had time to examine the amended version, but it presents an extremely artificial appearance.

W B (Stratford).—It shall not be forgotten.

E A F (Cairo).—Be assured that No. 2172 can be solved only in the way designed by the author, and published by us. Your solution of No. 2173 is correct.

J S L (Blackburn, Natal).—The solution of No. 2166 must have arrived out by this time. The others are correct.

R M (Wexford), W H EVANS (Cardiff), J SARGEANT, T F EVANS (Bombay).—Problems received. They shall be carefully examined.

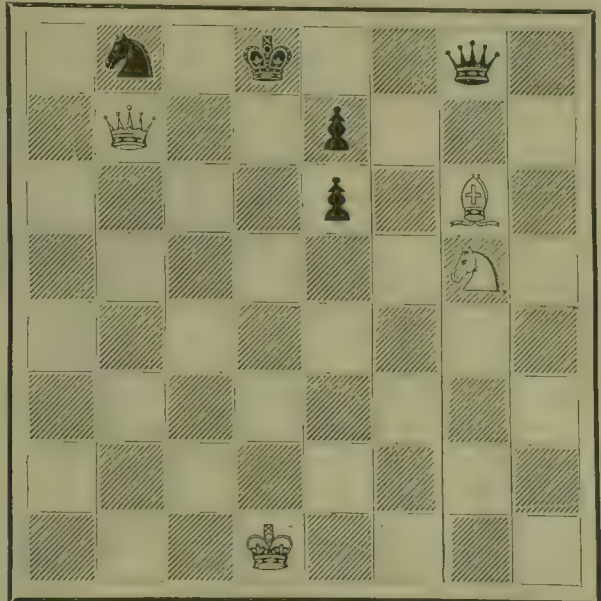
CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS Nos. 2167, 2168, and 2169 received from O H Bate (Richmond, Cape of Good Hope); of Nos. 2167 and 2168 from J S Logan (Blackburn, Natal); of No. 2174 from J P Langley, and B H C (Salisbury); of No. 2175 from Pierce Jones, J Roberts, Norbert De Cramer (Smyrna), and B H C (Salisbury); of No. 2176 from C E P, J Crispus (Ghent), H H H (St. Petersburg), G Morland Day, F E Pott, Pierce Jones, Submarine (Dover), T Roberts, Emuo (Darlington), and B H C (Salisbury).

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 2176 received from F Marshall, R H Brooks, W Hillier, W E Stephenson, L Wyman, W Biddle, Ben Nevis, W B Smith, H Wardell, W R Raille, B R Wood, Columbus, E Elshury, J K (South Hamstead), C Darragh, Nerina, G Morland Day, B Casella (Paris), A R (Rotherham), A Bruin, E Loudon, Joseph Ainsworth, R Tweddell, John C Bremner, Jupiter Junior, L Falcon (Antwerp), Chess Club of Statue Belliard (Brussels), Jack, Otto Fulder (Ghent), G W Law, Pierce Jones, C Oswald, H Reeve, Nicollott (Cape Glacier, Marseilles), R L Southwell, E E H, W Hillier, L Sharswood, Emuo Sharswood, Shadforth, N S Harris, Walter Reed, C S Cox, Submarine (Dover), Emuo (Darlington), W H Reed, Commander W L Martin (R.N.), E J Winter Wood, James Pilkington, C E P, and A C Hunt.

PROBLEM No. 2179.

By S. LOYD (from "Chess Strategy").

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in two moves.

One of twenty Games, played simultaneously, by Mr. BLACKBURNE at Worcester. Mr. Blackburne's opponent in this game is one of our strongest amateurs.

(Allgaier Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Amateur.)	WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Amateur.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	12. B to Q 3rd	R to K sq
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	13. Kt takes B	K takes Kt
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	If he had played to win the Queen by 13. Kt to Q B 6th (dis. ch), Mr. Blackburne points out the following as a probable continuation:—	
4. P to K R 4th	P to Kt 5th	14. Kt takes R	Kt takes Q
5. Kt to K 5th	B to Kt 2nd	15. Q Kt to B 6th (ch)	K to B sq
6. P to Q 4th	Kt to K B 3rd	16. B to R 6th (ch)	K to B 2nd
7. Kt to Q B 3rd		17. K takes Kt	P to B 3rd
A revival of an old line of play, against which P to Q 3rd is supposed to be a good defence.		18. B to K Kt 5th	Q to R 4th
8. Kt to Q 3rd	P to Q 3rd	19. Kt to B 7th, and wins.	
9. Kt to Q 3rd	Q to K 2nd	Of course, Black has lines of play other than that indicated in the above note, but they all turn out in favour of White.	
10. Kt takes P	Kt takes P	14. Castles	P to Kt 4th
11. Kt to R 5th	Q to Q sq	15. B takes Kt	R takes B
	Castles	16. B to Kt 5th,	
		and Black resigned.	

At this Christmas season there is little stir in the chess world, at home or abroad. To be sure, the new British Chess Club, 49, Leicester-square, has its attractions for many of our best metropolitan players; and frosts cannot chill the ardour of our city players, nor can festivities seduce their minds from their monster tournament of one hundred and twenty competitors, now in progress at their club. Nevertheless, there are many chessplayers among them many of our readers—who know not of clubs, even harmless, necessary chess clubs, and whose inclinations tend in the direction of a few quiet hours at the chess-board, when tired of the revelry which now rules the homes of Englishmen. For these we have selected a few problems in two moves, and wish them not only success in their encounters with the composers, but to each and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

White: K at Q square, Q at K Kt sq, B's at Q R 2nd and 5th, Pawn at K 3rd. (Five pieces.)
Black: K at Q 3rd. (One piece.)

White to play, and mate in two moves.

White: K at K Kt 4th, R at K 6th, Kts at K 4th and Q B 6th, B at K Kt 8th, Pawns at K B 6th and Q Kt 3rd. (Seven pieces.)
Black: K at Q 4th. (One piece.)

White to play, and mate in two moves.

White: K at Q B 5th, Q at K R square, R's at K Kt 2nd and K R 3rd, Kt at K B 7th, B at Q 2nd. (Six pieces.)
Black: K at K 5th, Kt at K R 7th, B at Q 8th, Pawn at K 3rd. (Four pieces.)

White to play, and mate in two moves.

White: K at K 7th, Q at K Kt 7th, R at Q B 7th, Kts at K Kt 3rd and Q B 4th, B at K R 8th, Pawns at K 6th and Q 6th. (Eight pieces.)
Black: K at Q 4th, Q at Q Kt 5th, R at Q R 6th, Kts at K B 2nd and K 7th, Pawns at K 6th and Q Kt 3rd. (Seven pieces.)

White to play, and mate in two moves.

In answer to the inquiries of our correspondents, the Rev. Mr. Skipworth, honorary secretary of the Counties Chess Association, informs us that the problems competing in the Hereford tournament will appear in the report of the meeting held there in July last. The report will be issued, in magazine form, in five parts; and the first part, containing some of the tourney problems, is now in type, and will shortly be published. The judges in the competition are the Rev. Mr. Skipworth and Mr. W. Grimshaw, and, in the event of any difference of opinion, the Chess Editor of the *Illustrated London News* will act as referee.

A correspondent writes:—Mr. Skipworth addressed a large and influential meeting of chessplayers, at Derby, on the 10th inst. There seemed to be a strong desire on the part of those present that the Counties Chess Association should be supported by the clubs, in order that it might be enabled, at its annual meeting, to have an open or Masters' Class for all comers.

A new official publication, entitled "The Post-Office Handbook," containing the principal regulations and other necessary information respecting Post-Office business, will be issued for sale to the public on Jan. 1, at the price of one penny. The book (which will be issued half-yearly) may be obtained at all post-offices, and also of the town and rural postmen throughout the United Kingdom. The "Post-Office Guide" and other official publications which have hitherto been supplied to the public through private publishers will, after the end of the present year, be obtainable from postmasters only. All persons, therefore, desirous of obtaining copies of the next issue should make early application to the local postmaster or sub-postmaster for the same.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated Nov. 4, 1872), with four codicils (dated Jan. 2, 1873; March 17, 1884; and Feb. 27 and Sept. 12, 1885), of the Right Hon. Anthony, Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., late of No. 24, Grosvenor-square, and of St. Giles, in the county of Dorset, who died on Oct. 1 last, at Folkestone, was proved on the 11th inst. by the Hon. Anthony Evelyn Melbourne Ashley and the Hon. Anthony Lionel George Ashley, the sons, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £32,000. The testator gives a sum of £4800, at Messrs. Herries, Farquhar, and Co., or any balance that may be left after payment of legacies, debts, and funeral expenses, should it be necessary to resort to the fund, and also any property he became entitled to by the death of his daughter Lady Constance Emily Ashley, to his daughter Lady Edith Florence Ashley, and his son the Hon. Anthony Cecil Ashley; his leasehold house in Grosvenor-square (and the stables), with the plate, furniture, pictures, consumable stores, and effects, upon trust, for his said daughter; and he charges, in her favour, the family estates, with the payment of £5000, in addition to any money she is entitled to under his marriage settlement. There is a further legacy to his son the Hon. Anthony Cecil Ashley; one to his son the Hon. Anthony Lionel George Ashley; and legacies also to his executors. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves to his eldest son. The testator states, as his reason for not making further bequests to his sons and to his other daughter, that he has made gifts to them in his life-time, and they are otherwise amply provided for.

Letters of Administration of the personal estate of Field-Marshal the Right Hon. Hugh Henry Rose, Baron Strathnairn, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., LL.D., late of No. 52, Berkeley-square, and of Newsells Park, Royston, Herts, who died on Oct. 16 last, at Paris, a bachelor, without parent, and intestate, were granted on the 3rd inst., to Admiral the Hon. George Henry Douglas, the nephew, and one of the persons entitled in distribution to his personal estate. The value of the personal estate exceeds £66,000.

The will (dated March 19, 1860) of the Right Hon. Katherine Anne, Viscountess Cranley, late of No. 2, Downe-terrace, Richmond, who died on Oct. 18 last, at Alford House, South Kensington, was proved on the 13th ult. by the Hon. Mary Katherine Onslow, the daughter, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £10,000. The testatrix bequeaths £1000 Consols out of a larger sum standing in her name, one moiety to the Society for Promoting the Employment of Additional Curates in Populous Places; and the other moiety to the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton; and the marble bust of the late Lord Cranley to her sister-in-law, Lady Mary Augusta Onslow. The residue of her property she leaves to her three daughters, Mary Katherine, Katherine Elizabeth, and Emily Marian.

The will (dated July 22, 1885) of Mr. Hugh Heywood Jones, late of Lark Hill, West Derby, who died on Aug. 3 last, at Great Yarmouth, was proved at the Liverpool District Registry on the 17th ult. by Oliver Heywood Jones and Captain Llewellyn Heywood Jones, the brothers, and Richard Anderton, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £126,000. The testator bequeaths £7000 to Sir Peniston Milbank, Bart.; £1000 to Lionel Wynter; £200 to Renée Parlar, an old nurse; £100 to Thomas Maddocks, greyhound trainer; and there are specific bequests of plate to his four brothers and to his sister. His mansion-house, Lark Hill, with the furniture, effects, horses, carriages, live and dead stock, and all his freehold, copyhold, and leasehold property, he gives to his four brothers. As to the residue of the personalty, he leaves five sixths to his four brothers, and one sixth, upon trust, for his sister, Mrs. Anderson.

The will (dated March 23, 1882) of Mr. William Webb, of Down Side, Pembroke-road, Clifton, who died on Sept. 13 last, was proved on Nov. 24 by his son, William Robert Webb, his nephew, William Merrett Webb, and Thomas Henry Yabbicom, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £31,900.

The will (dated Jan. 3, 1884) of Mrs. Elizabeth Atkinson, late of Claremont, Southport, Lancashire, who died on Sept. 23 last, was proved at the Liverpool District Registry on the 4th ult. by Thomas Potter Cunliffe, Sir Thomas Sebastian Bazley, Bart., and Robert Ellis Cunliffe, the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £28,000. The testatrix bequeaths £1000 to the Edgworth Institution for Homeless Children; £500 each to the Institution conducted by Alfred Akop, at Wood-street, Deansgate, Manchester, the Boys' Home in Strangeways, Manchester; and the Governesses' Home, Southport; £1000 to each of her executors; £1000 to each of her six god-daughters; and other legacies. The residue of her property is to be equally divided between the children of Mrs. Jessie Anne Atkinson Hughes.

The will (dated Dec. 17, 1880) of Vice-Admiral John James Kennedy, C.B., late of No. 39, Onslow-square, South Kensington, who died on Aug. 18 last, at Harrogate, was proved on the 11th ult. by Mrs. Isabella Frances Kennedy, the widow, and sole executrix, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £14,000. The testator gives, devises, and bequeaths all his real and personal estate, whatsoever and wheresoever, to his wife, absolutely and beneficially.

The will (dated June 16, 1885), with a codicil (dated Aug. 13 following), of Mr. Henry Gregson, formerly of Lowlynn, county Northumberland, but late of The Priory, Fulford-road, York, who died on Sept. 19 last, was proved on the 10th ult. by Robert George Bolam, the surviving executor, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £13,000. The testator leaves legacies to his sons; and the residue of his property, upon trust, for all his daughters living at his death, in equal shares.

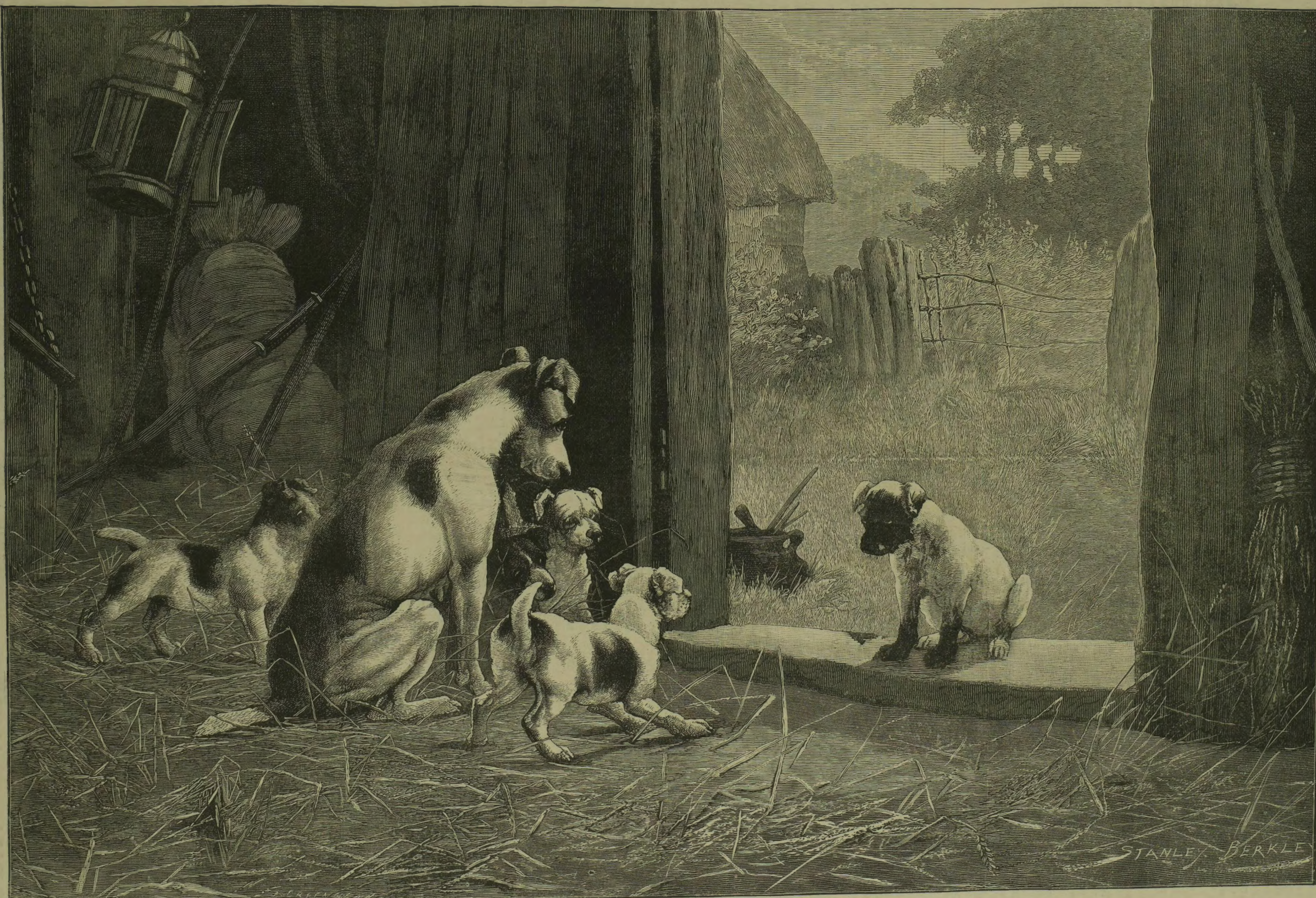
The will (dated Nov. 4, 1882) of Miss Maria Hebden, late of No. 15, Compton-terrace, Islington, who died on Oct. 26 last, was proved on the 14th ult. by Charles Edward Abbott, John Bishop Forster, and Miss Mary Ann Abbott, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £11,000. The testatrix bequeaths £300 to the Industrial School, Copenhagen-street, Islington; £100 each to the Holloway Dispensary, Islington; the District Visiting Society in connection with the Chapel of Ease, St. Mary, Islington; the Governesses' Benevolent Institution; the Society for Incurables, Clapham-rise; the Association for the General Welfare of the Blind; the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead; the Parochial Schools, St. Mary, Islington (Chapel of Ease Branch); and the Asylum for Idiots, Reedham; and £50 to the Indigent Blind Visiting Society.

The fine new gravestone at Swansea, which has been constructed by Mr. T. A. Walker for the Central Dry Dock and Engineering Company, was opened on the 17th inst. by the entrance into it of the large steam-ship *Tourmaline*.

The editor of *Little Folks* magazine has distributed among the children's hospitals in London and the country a large number of gifts received from his readers during 1885. These consist of dressed dolls, knitted articles, scrap albums, toys, and many hundreds of copies of coloured painting-books and other matters.



AT HIS GATES.—DRAWN BY GUNNING KING.



A DISGRACE TO HIS FAMILY.

FROM THE PICTURE BY STANLEY BERKLEY, IN THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN OIL COLOURS.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

"Peace, perfect peace," and "Hark! my soul, it is the Lord," are two sacred songs by M. Gounod, in which the expression of elevated religious sentiment is obtained in strains that are, although simple, full of melodious beauty. The first-named song has an ad libitum chorus. Messrs. Chappell and Co. are the publishers. From the same firm we have other attractive vocal pieces. "For ever nearer," by Mr. G. F. Hatton (son of the veteran composer, J. L. Hatton), has recently been sung, with marked and deserved success, by Mr. E. Lloyd. It is, indeed, a charming setting of some beautiful lines by D. G. Rossetti. Two songs, "The love that came too late" and "My Love and I," both by F. P. Tosti, may be commended for pleasing suavity of melody. Among other songs (published by Messrs. Chappell) that will be found acceptable by drawing-room singers are "A Song of the Soldier," by M. Watson; "Caught," by A. Romili; "The Empty Saddle," by H. Klein; "Remember Me," by J. De Sivrai; and "Once and for Ever," by I. De Lara.

Some brilliant pianoforte pieces have also been issued by Messrs. Chappell. "Celestial Strains," "Tripping," and "Tête-à-Tête," all by Francesco Berger, are well written, in various styles, for the display of the instrument, are comparatively easy of execution, and are well adapted for teaching purposes.

Messrs. Boosey and Co.'s "Diamond Music Books" are among the wonders of cheapness of which the present time offers such remarkable examples. For the price of sixpence, each number contains an amount of music that would, not many years ago, have cost several shillings. Upwards of thirty numbers have now been issued. Several are devoted to dance music in various forms; others to vocal pieces, songs, duets, glees, &c.; some to pianoforte and violin music, and some to instruction-books for various musical pursuits.

Another valuable and inexpensive series issued by Messrs. Boosey and Co. is entitled "The Cavendish Music-Books." These are approaching, if they have not reached, their hundredth number, and contain music in almost every form, vocal and instrumental, classical and popular, as specified in the list of contents appended to the publications.

"Sans Adieu!" by J. Blumenthal, is a song replete with sentimental expression. The melody is flowing, and essentially of a vocal character, lying within moderate compass. It has been sung with great success by Mr. E. Lloyd. Messrs. Boosey and Co. are the publishers, as also of the following songs, all of which may be commended as being pleasingly melodious: "The Three Beggars," "The Old Finger-Post," and "Simeon Sly," by J. L. Molloy; "The Maid of the Mill" and "The Soldier's Good-bye," by Stephen Adams; "A Changeling," by W. Coenen; "Bonnie Lesley," by Maud Valérie White; "A Lark's Flight" and "Children Asleep," by F. L. Moir; "Grandpapa's Wooing," by Theo. Marzials; "An Old Garden" and "Fond heart, farewell," by Hope Temple. All these have been successfully sung in public by eminent vocalists, and are published by Messrs. Boosey and Co., as is a detached edition of the favourite song, "As when the snow-drift," from Mr. A. Goring Thomas's opera "Nadeshda."

"The Cabinet Organ Books" (Boosey and Co.) is a series of pieces for that instrument, edited by Mr. Josiah Pittman, an organist of exceptional skill and experience. This shilling serial contains a large quantity of fine music, selected from the works of Bach, Handel, Rinck, and Wesley, and other less known masters who have been too much ignored.

"Two Marionettes" is the title of a very piquant and bright song, in which the music, by Edith Cooke, well expresses the quaint sentiment of lines, by Arthur Law. Messrs. R. Cocks and Co. are the publishers, as also of a pleasing vocal duet, "I'll whisper thy name" ("Deh, vien o cara"), by Claude Trevor, which is given with English and Italian words. "Solitude" is the title of a very expressive "melodie" for the pianoforte by Signor Tito Mattei, who has given interest to a simple theme by graceful treatment. "First Lessons for the Pianoforte, in Large Notation" (likewise published by Messrs. Cocks and Co.) is a series of scales and passages, with explanatory remarks, followed by easy pieces with the fingering marked. The notes are engraved in exceptionally large characters, so as forcibly to fix the attention of juvenile pupils. This useful compilation is made by Mr. G. F. West. From the same firm we have some organ music deserving of commendation: "The Hungarian March," from Berlioz's "Faust," and a series of classical movements well arranged by A. Redhead; and a spirited "Festival March," composed by M. Watson.

"Elfin Chimes," a cantata for female voices, composed by F. F. Rogers to text by G. C. Bingham, contains some graceful music, written in a simple melodious style, for solos and chorus. It will be acceptable in amateur circles. The cantata is published by Forsyth Brothers, who also issue "Ten Songs for Children," by Carl Reinecke, the eminent Leipzig pianist and composer. Simple as are these ditties, and the pianoforte accompaniments thereto, they show the touch of the master-hand. The English words have been well supplied by Messrs. E. Oxenford and H. Hersee.

The London Music Publishing and General Agency Company is issuing a large quantity of musical publications of

various kinds. Among many pleasing vocal pieces may be mentioned three songs by G. Staker—"Memory's Dream," "When thou art happy," and "The Angel's Call"; two by J. Spawforth, "Parted Lives" and "Loving Still"; "I wander'd by the brook-side," by G. W. F. Crowther; "When we two parted," by M. Skirrow; and "Was it well?" by M. A. Baker. The engraving and printing of these productions are of a very superior kind.

"Adagietto" is a melodious piece for the pianoforte, with violin or flute, within the reach of most amateurs. It is composed by Oscar Wagner, and published by W. Czerny, from whom we have also "La Fête des Poupées," a very characteristic piece for pianoforte solo, by A. Weinthal; and an effective transcription, for the same instrument, by D. Brocca, of Egghard's song, "Waldehrauschen" ("The rustling of the woods").

Morley's "Organ Journal," edited by H. J. Stark, maintains the interest and variety of its contents, which consist of original pieces and arrangements from the works of composers of the past.

"Tis Better So" and "Cherry-Tree Farm" are two songs by the eminent French composer, M. Saint-Saëns, who has succeeded well in the serious sentiment of the former and the piquant grace of the latter. They are published by W. J. Willcocks and Co., as is an expressive song, "The Message of the Bells," the words and music of which are by the Countess of Munster.

"Away, away" is a very effective setting, by Heinrich Klein, of words by Mrs. C. B. Wilson; another song, "Which would you be, dear?" by the same composer, being equally successful in a more serious tone. H. Klein is the publisher.

Among Messrs. Enoch and Son's recent publications of vocal music may be specified the following:—"Alone on the Raft," a song in the true nautical style, by P. Rodney; "Calvary," by the same, a song of solemn expression (suitable for a deep voice); "The Vision Beautiful," a good specimen of the sentimental song, by Cotsford Dick; "Three Wishes," a song—with some effective varieties of key and rhythm—bearing the well-known name of Ciro Pinsuti; and "Number Two," by J. L. Roeckel, who has here produced a song with a touch of the true English style in its melody.

Messrs. Stanley Lucas, Weber, and Co.'s recent publications include some vocal pieces that will be very acceptable in drawing-room circles. Miss Maude Valerie White's "Du bist die Ruh," is a flowing duet for soprano and contralto to words by Ruckert, the original of which is given, together with an English translation by the lady composer, whose song, "Home Thoughts from Abroad," is a setting of words by Browning. The music of this contains some good and effective rhythmic contrasts. Miss Marie Antoinette Kingston's song, "Sweetheart, say" (the words by W. B. Kingston), is the production of a young lady whose musicianly acquirements we have previously recognised. The piece now referred to is full of melodious grace, with a treatment in its harmonic surroundings far superior to the average. Mr. C. S. Heap's song, "The Promise of the Spring," is a pleasing melody, well set off by a characteristic accompaniment. Similar praise may be bestowed on Mr. Francesco Berger's serenade, "Only I and You." Messrs. Stanley Lucas, Weber, and Co., have also published a pianoforte arrangement of the very impressive "Funeral March," composed, in memory of General Gordon, by Frances Allitsen, and performed by the Crystal Palace orchestra; "Tendresse," a graceful "Album Leaf" for the pianoforte, by W. Macfarren; and a stately "Minuet," for the same instrument, by A. Papendieck.

"Sinfonie e Preludi Celebri per Pianoforte": this is the sixth volume of arrangements of overtures and orchestral introductions to celebrated operas, this issue being devoted to works by Hérold and Meyerbeer. The adaptations are skilfully made, and the work is well and economically brought out by Messrs. Ricordi.

Messrs. Augener and Co.'s quarto editions of classical and brilliant music—vocal and instrumental—already form an extensive library, and are still in course of augmentation. Among recent issues are pianoforte works, some solo and some duet, by Henri Bertini, Sterndale Bennett, Dvorák, Gounod, Jensen, Joachim Raff, Schubert (transcriptions by Liszt), Volkmann, and others. A valuable collection of duet pieces, selected and arranged, is the series entitled "Album Classique," edited by Max Pauer. Hermann's excellent "Special Studies for the Violin" are also included in Messrs. Augener's editions; as are the following vocal works:—The characteristic "Lieder" of Abt, Brahms, Jensen, and Rubinstein; Mr. W. A. Barrett's serviceable collection of "Standard English Songs"; G. Nava's "Répertoire de Solfèges"; Lutzen's twenty-six "Melodies Vocalises"; and the following cantatas, which are especially suitable for drawing-room performance: Abt's "Jorinda and Jorindel" and "The Promised Land" (sacred), and Heale's "The Water-Sprites." An excellent collection of organ music—in oblong form—is also issued by Messrs. Augener and Co., comprising a new edition of Bach's works, edited by Mr. W. T. Best; the "Handel Album," a series of arrangements by the same; his collection of pieces, in different styles, entitled "Cecilia"; and several books of the works of the celebrated

Italian organist, Filippo Capocci. In full library form, Messrs. Augener have published beautiful editions of the excellent pianoforte works (solo and duet) of M. Moszkowski, J. L. Nicodé, and Xaver Scharwenka, all edited by Mr. E. Pauer, whose collection of "Celebrated Concert Studies" will be welcome to pianists of more than average skill; as will be, to beginners, "The Abecedarian," an elementary pianoforte school, proceeding from the easiest stages up to a degree of moderate difficulty. The paper, engraving, and printing of all these works are of high excellence. Messrs. Augener have likewise issued a neat edition of J. C. Lobe's useful catechism of music, translated and edited by Constance Bache.

"AT HIS GATES."

A sacred solemnity belongs to the title of this drawing, for the scene is at the church door, and reverence is due to the thought of Him whose "gates" are the entrance to the House of Prayer. The aged labourer, bowed with the burthen of near eighty years, and leaning on the arm of a tall girl, who may be his grandchild, has lived hardy, soberly, and industriously, employed, while strength remained to him, in honest and useful rustic toil. His mind is clear, full of long remembrances and past experiences of life, affectionately recalling those who were dear to him, wise in comparing the observations of former days with those of the present; above all, piously resigned to the will of the Almighty, grateful for all good enjoyed by himself or his neighbours, and joyfully anticipating his rest in Heaven. With such consolation of the spirit, he bears the infirmities of old age with a noble patience; yet for a little while, supported by the "rod and staff" given to his feeble hand, slowly passing on to join the assembly of fellow-worshippers: a poor man, to be respected, and not to be pitied; for he seems, as Wordsworth says—

A man who does not move with pain, but moves
With thought; he is insensibly subdued
To settled quiet; he is one by whom
All effort seems forgotten; one to whom
Long patience had such mild composure given
That patience now doth seem a thing of which
He hath no need; he is by Nature led
To peace so perfect, that the young behold,
With envy, what the old man hardly feels.

"A DISGRACE TO HIS FAMILY."

Thanks to Sir Edwin Landseer and other artists who sympathise with animal life, we have learned to recognise, in some degree, the traits of humanity in the characters of dogs. There is true humour in Mr. Stanley Berkley's picture of the canine family regarding with disapproval a black-faced brother on the threshold of their kennel; the mother, half-reluctant, half-regretting that she has given birth to such a monstrously exceptional variety in her offspring; and the young ones apparently disposed to renounce their kindred of race. We do not answer for the reality of this sentiment as a fact in natural history; but it is an allowable dramatic invention, and may be taken as a gentle satire upon the prejudices which sometimes interfere with domestic and social intercourse amongst mankind. It is possible that dogs acquire human vices, as they do certainly acquire human virtues; and that an exclusive, bigoted, censorious temper, inclined to contemn and reject any of the brethren whose visage or demeanour is unlike the majority, may be contracted from culpable examples in the world, or even in the Church. Blackness of face, without any other points of natural or moral inferiority, has too often been held a sufficient cause for denying the rights of human brotherhood in a general sense, and even for permanent oppression. It is sad, indeed, to consider that our unreasoning companions in the household, who might have thought their whole species born free and equal in a state of nature, may be infected with such illiberal views by imitating the conduct of men and women. They have, moreover, the disadvantage of not hearing any preachers of equity and charity to amend this fault; but we may get a lesson from them.

Lord Justice Cotton has been elected treasurer of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn for the ensuing year, in succession to Mr. Justice Pearson.

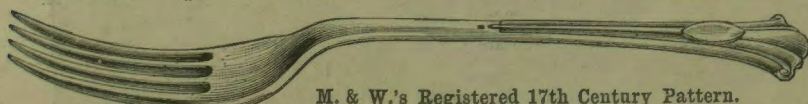
The Corporation of Huntingdon has created the Earl of Sandwich High Steward, and conferred the freedom of the borough upon his Lordship.

Mr. A. D. Bartlett, superintendent of the Zoological Society's Gardens, Regent's Park, writes:—"Our natural history collection has just been augmented by the very handsome gift of two fine Bengal tigers, male and female. Mr. Joseph Rock, the State agent to the Nizam's Government, who has recently returned from India, brought with him these animals, and has presented them to the gardens in the name of the Nawab Salar Jung Bahadur, who shot the mother about a year ago, near the city of Hyderabad, and had the cubs conveyed to the gardens of his palace, where they have been most successfully reared, and have now attained almost their full growth. Salar Jung is the Prime Minister to the Nizam of the Deccan, and son of the late Sir Salar Jung, G.C.S.I., whose friendship towards England was so forcibly exemplified during the Mutiny."



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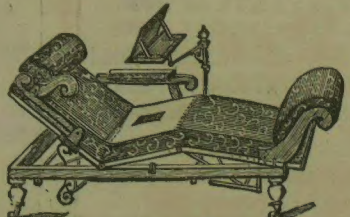
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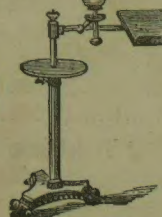
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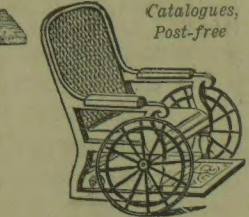
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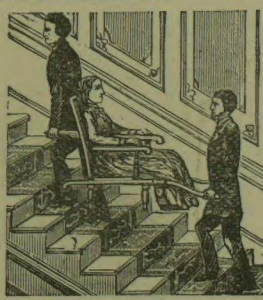
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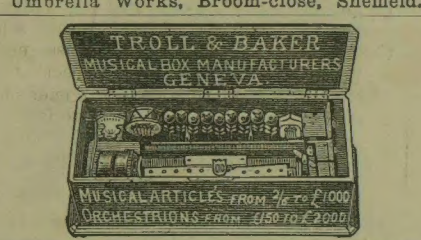
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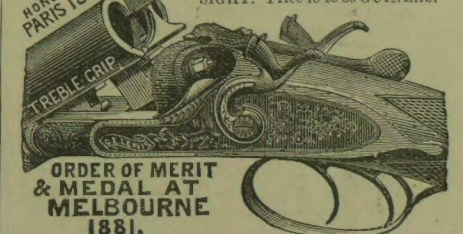
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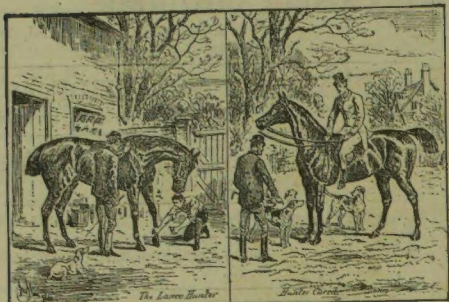
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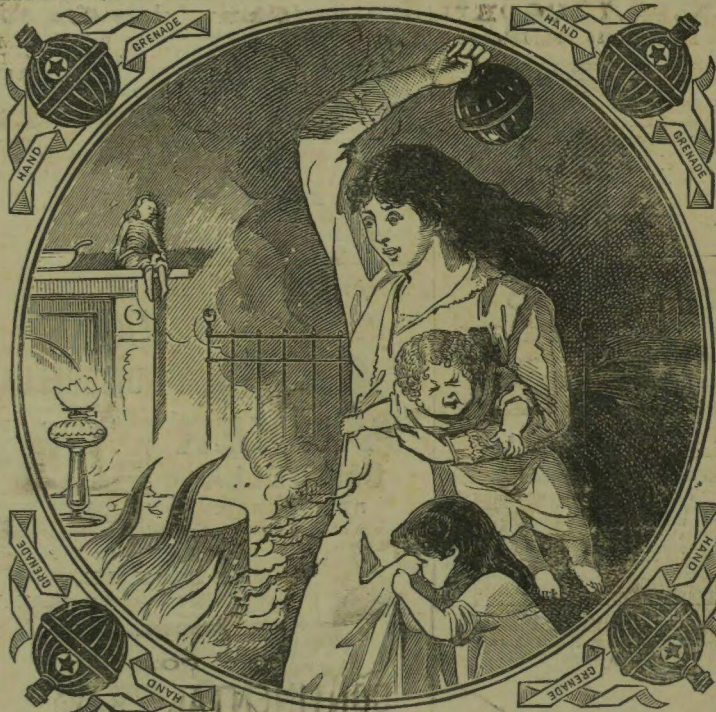
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PUT OUT THE FIRE

Before it can get a good hold, and thus save Life and Property.

The Harden "Star" Hand Grenade is a blue glass globe or bottle filled with a chemical fluid, and when broken over or into the flame **EXTINGUISHES FIRE INSTANTLY.** Being hermetically sealed by a Patent Stopper, the exclusive property of this Company, the contents are not deteriorated by age, climate, frost, &c., nor will they injure Person or Property in the slightest. Hung up in your House, Office, or Factory, they are instantly accessible and invariably effective.

"H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by H.R.H. the Duchess of Edinburgh and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, was present on Thursday afternoon at some interesting experiments by the Harden 'Star' Hand Grenade Fire Extinguisher Company, which took place opposite the Savoy Theatre. The proceedings, which successfully demonstrated the efficacy of the grenades in dealing with seven varieties of fires, were also witnessed by the Duke of Sutherland, Earl Sydney, Earl of Kenmare, Lord H. Bruce, Sir H. Lumsden, and others."—Daily News, May 15, 1885.



Testimonials.

"25, High-street, Maidenhead, March 2, 1885.—Dear Sir,—Some methylated spirit took fire in our work-room and rapidly ignited the floorboards. It was of the utmost importance that the fire should be instantly extinguished, and this, we are happy to say, was most successfully accomplished by the use of two Harden 'Star' Hand Grenades. Their use was most satisfactory. Their portability allowed their immediate application at a point to which water could only have been carried with difficulty, and their instantaneous action left nothing to be desired.—Yours, &c., J. W. WALKER and SON."

"White Lion Inn, High Wycombe, June 8, 1885.—Gentlemen,—In putting out the alarming fire in my back premises, on Saturday last, the effect of the two Harden 'Star' Hand Grenades which were broken on the flames was simply wonderful. In two minutes or so the whole fire was out, and the total destruction of the whole premises prevented.—Yours truly, W. A. WEAVER."

"Dear Sirs,—By using one of your Hand Grenades, a fire in our lace factory was at once extinguished, thereby saving the whole building and machinery.—Yours truly, W. H. BROS., Ilkeston, Pa ch 3, 1885."

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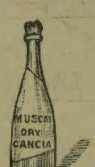
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